IROQUOIS INDIANS:

A Documentary History of the Diplomacy of the Six Nations and Their League

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INTRODUCTION

This compilation is like none other in the world. It is an archive of documents made by and concerning a people without scribes, documents recorded by other parties and originally filed away obscurely in repositories devoted to other interests. Because the League of the Iroquois and its constituent Six Nations negotiated diplomatically with the agents of empires, provinces, and nation-states, as well as with other Indian nations, Iroquois treaty documents came to rest in The Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Canada, and the United States, and in many state and private collections, in all of which the Iroquois documents were secondary to the thousand and one concerns of Europeans and Euro-Americans. Now these many scattered collections have been culled to create the first authentic archive of an indigenous tribal people.

Strictly speaking, an archive consists of the documents generated by an agency or institution, but we may think in terms of an imaginary Iroquois foreign office whose papers were destroyed in an imaginary fire, being preserved only in the copies made for other parties to negotiations. With that fiction in mind, what we have here is a reconstituted archive. Regardless of problems of definition, it is a body of texts exceedingly important to genuinely reconstituting the history of the United States and its predecessor colonies and native peoples.

The Iroquois League was a great military and political power in North America during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Its importance was recognized by contemporary statesmen of competing European empires and colonies, who vied with each other to secure Iroquois friendship and alliance. After 1700, the Iroquois policy of neutrality maintained a balance of power between the empires that lasted until the Seven Years War, and the Iroquois nations were wooed by Britain and the United States during the War of the American Revolution. It is not possible to write a valid political history of eastern North America during the era preceding the Revolution without carefully considering Iroquois participation in the most important events of the time; and the basis of the Northwest Ordinances of 1784-87 was the treaty made at Fort Stanwix between the United States and the Iroquois in 1784.

Though the Iroquois League fragmented during the American Revolution and its people are now scattered on Canadian and American reservations, and individually as far as Hawaii, their history after the Revolution became inextricably part of the history of the Great Lakes region and of the vast intersocietal trade that moved westward across the continent. Defying dogmas of the vanishing Indian, more Iroquois are now alive than were previously recorded at any one time.

The major problem in studying Iroquois participation in North American history has been the scattered and unreliable condition of the source materials. A large number were virtually inaccessible. Most have never been validated by critical examination for omissions, variance between copies, or other contradiction by other contemporary documents. In national and state archives, Iroquois treaties are submerged in the general material, their arrangement and cataloging ill-suited to the study of indigenous peoples; and indexes are at best inadequate, often erroneous and misleading. There is continuing attrition of source manuscripts, identifiable by later references to documents that no longer can be found.

Now, however, most of the problems of access have been solved by the archive presented herein; and comparison of documents has been facilitated. The documents included were compiled by a project begun in September 1978 at the D'Arcy McNickle Center for the History of the American Indian at the Newberry Library. Funded for three years by the Research Division of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and staffed by a historian and three anthropologists with the assistance of many temporary aides, the project initially aimed at compiling less than 3,000 texts, but even the specialists had badly underestimated Iroquois diplomatic activity and its involvements. The documents piled up to three times the original estimate, and the project's actual duration extended past its formal closing for three more years. It has been completed nevertheless, largely owing to the dedicated support of the Newberry Library and donation of labor by the staff. Many generous contributions by individuals and institutions are acknowledged below.

Project staff made no effort to collect original source documents. Instead, it copied them by microphotography or xerography and made paper copies of all documents to be filed in an archive at the Newberry. This publication reproduces that archive. It is open to addition as new documents come to light, and students are solicited to send information about such new documents to the Newberry. The archive's calendar is available on a computer printout at the Newberry, and a card index of names and subjects refers to about one-sixth of the documents on file. Access may be had by qualified students. An indexed document is noted as such by a degree sign after the date of the document on the headnote to the document and in the calendar. Regrettably the index could not be completed because of lack of funds, but it is useful in combination with the calendar. Both are printed in the guide that accompanies this film. A reader may wish to scan the calendar for context before concentrating on particular documents. Calendar and index, especially when used together, are finding aids for the location of particular documents and sets of related documents.

ABOUT THE TEXTS

What They Are

The documents presented here include the minutes of treaty conferences, the agreements resulting from formal meetings, and a broad range of background materials useful for interpreting motives, procedures, and effects. The editors' basic standard for selection was relevance to the diplomatic history of Iroquois nations or their league. Other parties involved in the negotiations are also included.

Most of the documents are manuscript or printed texts arranged in chronological order. Often it has been possible to compile copies of the same text from different sources, and sometimes these are variant, sometimes significantly so. All copies are included. Texts in languages other than English are presented but only rarely translated.

Photographs of wampum belts are also included as representing Indian records of negotiations. In almost all instances, it has not been possible to identify a particular belt with a specific written record, and the editors have concluded regretfully that the belts cannot be deciphered by a general code. Nevertheless certain conventional patterns have been observed, so the belts are grouped according to emblematic content, following the last written text at the end of the microfilm publication.

The documents span a period from the earliest surviving sixteenth century texts through the year 1842.

How They Were Copied

The editors depended on many archives and repositories for exact xerographic copies of original documents in their possession. Their valuable cooperation was unstinted, but the variety of their facilities for copying prevented the adoption of a uniform reduction ratio. Therefore, although the final microfilming at Research

Publications was done at a constant reduction ratio, there is no constant relation between the relative size of documents on our film and the actual dimensions of the originals.

The integrity of the documents was the editors' foremost concern. No document has been altered. Very few extractions were made and they are noted in every case. No marks were made by us on copies received except, in some cases, for bold editorial lines with arrows, to denote the beginning and end of a document. Such indications were also used to note overlapping when a large page had to be copied in sections.

The editors aimed at comprehensiveness. This objective required inclusion of some texts so mutilated or faint in the original as to be minimally legible. These are given nevertheless for whatever information can be extracted from them. Some are more legible in the technically enhanced copies than in the originals.

As in all publications, the originals remain the ultimate source to be consulted when issues of textual validity arise. The location of every document is given in a headnote.

How They Are Presented

Each entry consists of a headnote with the document's date, a brief description, and the source, followed by the document itself. In a few cases a translation or annotation will follow the document.

Each headnote description reflects the perspective of the document rather than editorial comment about it. As descriptions were often taken from catalogs or notations of source repositories, spelling of names is not standardized. Editorial remarks, if present, appear in parentheses or annotations.

Bracketed dates have been assigned by the editors. Single documents are given with the date when written regardless of the time referred to in their contents. This has been done because documents are products of the time and circumstances when written, and these may seriously affect interpretation of the contents. To preserve textual integrity, some texts have been included as found in collections of documents spanning a period of time which is so dated: e.g., 1645-Sept 1654. Multiple copies of the same document, same date, are distinguished as Document I, Document II, etc., and filed in sequence under their common date.

If a document is dated more than one year from the date of the treaty to which it pertains, it is cross-referenced under the treaty date. Because of the prolonged nature of many treaty negotiations, users should scan the compilation's calendar to find appropriate documents within a year of any event of interest. Although cross-references refer to specific documents, distinguished by Roman numerals in cases in which there is more than one document of the same date, references to other documents in editorial remarks within descriptions of a particular document do not make use of Roman numerals to distinguish between documents of the same date. In these cases, all documents of the date cited should be checked for the reference.

The editors have not tried to reconcile or adjust dates in the Old Style Julian calendar used by the English for many years after the French and Dutch had changed over to the New Style Gregorian calendar. Dates are given herein as they appear on the documents. When the English finally changed over, they often gave both new and old dates on the same text; in such instances the editors opted for the New Style annotation.

The project staff has compiled and edited a printed reference manual to assist in interpreting the texts, and we urge that it be kept handy during research. It is The History and Culture of Iroquois Diplomacy: An Interdisciplinary Guide to the Treaties of the Six Nations and Their League (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1984). It is a volume for quick and easy reference, self-contained but especially useful in conjunction with this compilation of documents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This archive could not have been compiled without the generous contributions of counsel and materials from many persons and agencies. No one is intentionally left out of the following list. Pardon is asked for any inadvertent omission.

Indian people: Early in the project, Richard Powless and Paul Williams of the Union of Ontario Indians provided a list of treaty documents. Seven persons from the Union of Ontario Indians visited the project from 23rd to 29th June 1979 and offered comments and suggestions. Phil Monture, Land Researcher at Six Nations Reserve shared knowledge of locations of source materials. George Abrams, Director of the Seneca Iroquois National Museum on the Allegany Seneca Reservation, and Ramona Charles, Librarian at the Community House on the Tonawanda Seneca Reservation, provided information about the location of materials. Tribal historians from different political persuasions on fellowship at the Center discussed the project with staff members during their residence: Norbert Hill and Sandra Orie came from the Oneida Reservation in Wisconsin, and Douglas George, recommended by the "traditional" Mohawk Nation, came from the St. Regis (Akwesasne) Reservation. Everett White, born and raised at St. Regis (Akwesasne), provided valuable information about documents based on his former experiences as an Indian Health Service employee and his personal interest in the history of his people. Most important information and advice were given on a visit by Cayuga Chief Jacob E. Thomas who represents the Cayuga nation in the Grand Council of the Houdenosaunee and teaches in Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario. On 22nd May 1980, Chief Thomas made a joint presentation with Dr. Michael K. Foster, Iroquoian Ethnologist of the Canadian National Museum of Man. At a colloquium at the Newberry, they showed slides and facsimile artifacts and explained symbols in terms of Iroquois custom. Through the following day, Chief Thomas held nonstop conversation with project staff who took extensive notes and taped his analyses of certain wampum belts. He continued in correspondence afterward. Informal visitors to the project included Charles Patton and Tyler Hemlock, Caughnawaga (Kahnawake) Mohawks; and Alice Armstrong and Helen Laughing, Mohawks employed in the Demographic Office, Mohawk Tribal Offices, St. Regis Reservation.

When Associate Director Mary A. Druke traveled to Indian communities, she was received hospitably everywhere. Indians of Onondaga, including Oren Lyons, Irving Powless, Jr., and Irving Powless, Sr., though unsympathetic to the project, received her graciously and explained their attitudes. Information about documentary material and oral traditions were provided to her by residents of the following Indian communities: Allegany; Cattaraugus; Caughnawaga (Kahnawake), Onondaga, St. Regis (Akwesasne), Six Nations Reserve; Tonawanda; and Tuscarora.

Project Aides:

Consultants. Charles Gehring, of the New York State Library, Manuscripts, provided notes on Dutch manuscripts in the Livingston Family Papers at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. Paul Stevens, a Fellow at the McNickle Center, compiled and annotated source documents of the era of the American Revolution. Another McNickle Center Fellow, Professor Richard Haan, contributed copies of odd documents he had been collecting for ten years. Mary Ann Mayes searched William N. Fenton's files and compiled a list of cited Iroquois documents. Lieutenant Commander C. McD. Stuart, RN, searched uncalendared treaty texts at the Public Record Office of Great Britain and arranged for transmission of copies. Paul Grey, graduate student at the University of London, acted as liaison between the project staff and the Public Record Office in acquiring documents ordered by the staff. Professional indexer Elin Christianson advised on indexing procedures. Major F.E.G. Bageshawe, of Matlock, England, provided photographs of a wampum belt in private hands.

Office employees at various times included Nancy Kovitz; Peter Radke; Polly Strong, University of Chicago graduate student; Andrew Tobin, Bennington College student; Karli Erica White. Wesley Andrews arranged much of the final organization of the archive files. The project was also helped by several students enrolled in undergraduate independent study seminars of the Association of the Colleges of the Midwest and the Great Lakes Colleges Association, whose wages were paid by the associations and the Newberry. David L. Ghere accomplished "last minute" tasks.

Volunteers included Claudette Alm; Jeanette Campanella; Lucy Caples; Herbert Furse; Ted Knutson; Nancy Kovitz; Dorothy Markowitz; Virginia Meyers; Noel O'Reilly; Mary Louise Ramsey; Mrs. Gerald Sivage. They sorted and identified the masses of documents arriving in the mails, and put them in order for editors' review.

Newberry Library staff. Special interest was maintained and special help provided by John Aubrey, Michael Kaplan, Steve Mandel, Terry Sullivan, and Michelene Fixico; and much gratitude is owed for the patience of Richard H. Brown.

Advice and information were exchanged with colleagues of the Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History project: Helen Hornbeck Tanner, Adele Hast, and Jacqueline Peterson. The members of the Conference on Iroquois Research and the American Society for Ethnohistory devoted three successive panel sessions to the project at annual meetings.

Institutions:

Special gratitude is owed to the Public Archives of Canada for its gift of copies of treaties and surrenders in its possession. Thanks must also be expressed to the Rochester [N.Y.] Museum and Science Center for its donation of photographs of its large collection of wampum belts. The University of Chicago made copyflo paper copies of microfilm at a minimal cost far below commercial prices. Research Publications sent a photographer without charge to film documents located at the Albany Institute of History and Art and at the New York State Archives in Albany. Work on the project was greatly facilitated by materials collected in research travel previous to the project and incorporated into project files. The American Philosophical Society made such research fellowship grants to Director Jennings and Associate Director Druke. Through such generous contributions, as well as time and energy given by individuals, the project managed to stay within its budget despite its massive increase in size. When the project could not be finished within its allotted three years, the Newberry Library financed it to completion.

Thanks are due to each repository, publication, or individual source of materials listed below which made available copies of materials in its collections. together they have made this publication possible.

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18

Pennsylvania. 1769.

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly

May it please your Honour,

We have taken into our Consideration your Message, acquainting us, that a general Boundary Line was happily settled, by Sir William Johnson, His Majesty's Superintendent of Indian Affairs, between the Indians of the six Nations, the Delawares, and Shawanese, and His Majesty's middle Colonies. The accomplishment of a Measure so important to the British Interest in America, could not fail to give us the utmost satisfaction, as We have Reason to expect it will be the Means of preserving that Harmony and Friendship between these Colonies and the Nations, which have, heretofore, from various Causes, been too frequently interrupted. It is also particularly agreeable to us, to learn that the Proprietaries of this Province, have purchased a large Tract of Country within that Boundary, from whence a Prospect is afforded of new and extensive Settlements, and a further Increase of Inhabitants within this Province. And, as We esteem it our incumbent Duty, it shall be our constant Care, to pay a strict Regard and Attention to whatever Objects His Majesty shall, in His Wisdom, be graciously pleased to recommend to our Consideration. — Nothing therefore, in our Power, shall be wanting, which shall appear necessary and effectual to prevent future Settlements on the Lands unpurchased of the Indians, and every other Abuse, or Act of Injustice, that can reasonably create in them a Disaffection to the Colonies in General, or this Province in particular.

Signed by Order of the House,

February the 10th 1769.

Joseph Galloway,
Speaker.

At a Council, held at Philadelphia, on Monday February 13th 1769.

Present,

The Honourable John Penn, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

William Logan	Lynford Lardner	Esquires
Benjamin Chew	James Tilghman	

The Governor laid before the Board, a Paper, transmitted to him, by Sir Henry Moore, Governor of New York; containing an Account of

Pennsylvania, 1769.

of the Proceedings and Resolutions of a Number of People, belonging to the Province of Connecticut, who call themselves the Susquehanna Company, at a late Meeting held at Hartford, as also a Letter from Lewis Gordon, Esquire, dated the 7th of February, Instant, and another from Charles Stewart and John Jennings, Esquire, Sheriff of Northampton, dated, Wyoming the 6th Instant; which were severally read, and are as follow, Viz.

Proceedings and Resolutions of the Susquehanna Company

Whereas, at a Meeting of the Susquehanna Company held at Hartford on the 18th Day of May, Anno Domini 1763, said Company were advised, that His Majesty, in his Royal Pleasure to inhibit all Entries and Settlements upon the said Lands claimed by said Company purchased of the six Nations of Indians, lying on the River Susquehanna, until the State of the Case should be laid before His Majesty, and such precautions taken as might obviate any such Troubles with the Indians. And Whereas, said Company at said Meeting in pursuance of His Majesty's Order, did then Vote, that no Person or Persons belonging to said Company, shall enter upon, or make any Settlement, upon those Lands accordingly. And Whereas, the State of the Case, respecting those Lands, have been laid before His Majesty in Council, and, in pursuance of His Majesty's Order, such precautions have been taken, in settling the Line with the Indians, and in paying and satisfying them for all the Lands, lying East of the said Line, settled as aforesaid, as fully to obviate any fresh Troubles with the Indians, on account of any Claim, or Settlement of the English, within the aforesaid Line. Thereupon it is now Voted by the said Company to proceed and settle said Lands, lying on, and adjacent to said Susquehanna River, purchased from the Indians by said Company, lying within the Line settled with the Indians, as aforesaid, at the late Congress at Fort Stanwix as soon as conveniently may be. Voted, that forty Persons, upwards of the Age of twenty one Years Proprietors in said Purchase, and approved by the Company, hereafter nominated and appointed, proceed to enter upon, and take possession of said Land, for, and in behalf of said Company by the first day of February next; And that two hundred more of the Age aforesaid, proceed and join said forty on the Lands aforesaid, as early in the Spring as may be, for the Purpose aforesaid, not later than the first Day of May next; and that in order to encourage said forty Persons to proceed settle take possession of said Lands for and in behalf of said Company, that there be paid into the hands of a Committee appointed and hereafter named to and for the Use of said

said forty the Sum of £200, to be laid out by said Committee, in providing proper Materials, Sustenance and Provisions for said forty, as at the Direction of said Committee shall be thought needfull and proper. —

And for the further encouragement of the said two hundred who may join them in the Spring, according to the foregoing Vote this further considered and Voted to lay out five Townships of Land within the purchase of said Company and within the Line settled with the Indians afores'd of five Miles square each, three on the one side of the River, and two of them on the other opposite side the River, adjoining and opposite to each other, only the River parting at such place on the said River as they may think proper, each of said Townships to be five Miles on the River, and to extend in equal width back five Miles, to be, and belong to the said forty, and the said two hundred persons, over and above their respective Shares and Proportions in the remainder of the general Purchase, in manner following; Viz. — That the said forty have their first Choice of said five Townships, which they shall chuse, to be, and belong to the said forty; and, the other four, to be, and belong to the said two hundred, to be divided out to them by fiftys in a Township, as they shall think proper; reserving and appropriating three whole Rights or Shares, in each Township, for the publick Use of a Gospel Minister, and Schools, in each of said Towns; and also reserving, for the use of said Company, and for their after disposal, all Beds Mines, Iron Ore, and Coals, that may be within said Townships; The aforesaid Townships to be held by said forty, and said two hundred, on Condition of their entering upon, and take Possession, according to the above Vote, and also of their continuing thereon, holding, and Improving the same, by themselves, their Heirs, and Assigns, under said Company, for the space of five Years after this Entry as aforesaid, and, that they shall not so disorderly conduct and behave themselves, as shall, by the Company, be judged inconsistent with the Good and Interest of said Company: And that they hold not the same, or any other Part of said Purchase, under pretence of any other Claim but of said Company, if the first Number, approved by said Company shall fall short of forty, or, of these those that do proceed to join them in the Spring, shall fall short of two hundred. Nevertheless, those that do proceed according to the above Vote, to be entituled to their respective Parts, or Shares, in the said five Townships, in full, as though the whole Number were compleated. And, in Order that proper Persons, and such as may appear to be most subservient to the benefit of said Company, may be orderly introduced, as first Settlers on said Lands; — Voted that a Company be appointed in each County in this Colony, as also, some meet Person, or Persons, in the Neighbouring Colonies, to admit, and approve of such Persons as may offer themselves, for the first Settlers according to the foregoing Vote; And, that Colonel Samuel Talcott, Major Eleazer Talcott, Jonathan Pettibone, and Jonathan Root, Esquires, for the County of Hartford, — Daniel Lyman, Esquire, Michael Baldwin, and Captain Macock Ward, for the County of New Haven — Samuel Ely, Esquire, [illegible], and Captain Obadiah Gore, for the County of New London — Cornelius Hull, Nathan [illegible], Benjamin Seely for the County of Fairfield — John Smith, Samuel Gray, Esquires, and John Durkee for the County of Windham — Increase Mosely, Samuel Canfield, Esquires, and Benjamin Stephens, for the County of Litchfield — William Buck and John Woodworth for the Province of New York — Timothy Woodbridge, Esquire, for the Province of the Massachusetts Bay — Isaac Tripp, Job Randal, and Ezra Dean, for the Colony of Rhode Island, be, and are hereby appointed Committee, jointly and severally, to approve and admit of the aforesaid two hundred Persons proposed as first Settlers on said Lands, in such a Manner and proportion as they shall agree, so as not to exceed the number proposed — And that Isaac Tripp, Benjamin Follett, John Jenkins William Buck and Mr. Benjamin Shoemaker, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee, to approve, and admit, oversee, superintend, manage, and order the affairs of the first forty settlers, to raise the Monies granted to their Use, to lay out and prepare a convenient Road to Susquehanna River, for which purpose they are to receive fifty pounds, to be laid out in preparing a Road, as aforesaid, for the Benefit of the said Company, and to account with the standing Committee of said Company therefor; And upon any or either of said last mentioned Committee failing to attend said Trust to which they are appointed, the place, or places, to be supplied by such other Person, or Persons, as shall be chosen by the Major part of said forty first Settlers; And upon the arrival of the two hundred proposed to join the said forty, in the Spring, they may, if they see cause, together with the said forty, by their Major Vote, add to said Committee, so as to make the whole number of nine, who shall then be the Committee to oversee, ordain, and regulate the Affairs of said Settlers, and others of said Company, who ~~may~~ join them, until further, or otherwise Ordered, by said Company; which said Committee, by a Major Vote of Settlers there present, duly convened, may expel from, any Person among them, who shall so disorderly conduct and behave, or shall, by them, be judged inconsistant with the Good and Interest of said Company, and may declare the Right of such Person, in said Purchaſe, forfeit; which shall so remain, unleſs said Company, at any after Meeting, upon hearing Cause of Complaint, shall otherwise determine.

Paſsed in the Affirmative.

Voted, that if any Settler, or Settlers, on the aforesaid Lands, in pursuance of the Vote of this Company, shall be sued, or prosecuted in the Law, by the Proprietors of Pennsylvania, or any under them, on account of such his Settlement, and Poſseſsion: that, on proper Notice being given to the Standing Committee of said Company, then, the Company will be at the Cost of his or their Defence in said Suits.

A Letter to the Governor, from Lewis Gordon, Esquire.

Easton, 7th February, 1769.

Sir,

A few Hours ago, I received a Letter, by Expreſs, from Meſsieurs Stewart and Jennings, now at Wyoming, intimating that they had Intelligence from the Minisinks, that, a large Body of New-England Men, were to set off from thence for Wyoming, in order to take forcible Poſseſsion of these Lands; requesting my Advice how they are to conduct themselves, until they shall receive Your Instructions on this Head.——— The Expreſs, is this Moment set off for John Allen's Esquire, at the Union.——— This Moment, the Constable of the Minisinks is come down to me, on the same account, and informs, there are, at least, between forty and fifty New-England Men, in his Neighbourhood, on their Journey to Wyoming, and, that they have a great many friends amongst them; He is an active Man, and seems well disposed to serve the Government; wherefore, I shall, (as soon as I can learn any of the New England Peoples Names, which, I expect a List of, this Night,) iſsue a Warrant against them, to be executed by the same Constable, whom I detain on Purpose, and endeavour, all that lies in my Power, to apprehend them, and put a stop to this dangerous Scheme, a Copy of which, I have taken the liberty to inclose, that, in Case there be any defect, it may speedily be rectified.——— I beg Your Honour will excuse this Scrawl, having been busy all Day, and the Bearer impatient to be gone, and believe that I am, with the greatest Reſpect,

Sir,
Your most Obedient,
and most humble Servant,
The Honourable John Penn, Esquire. Lewis Gordon.

A Letter to the Governor, from Charles Stewart, and John Jennings, Esquire

Sir,

By an Expreſs from John Vancampen, we have received information, that, upwards of one hundred New-England Men, were, last Saturday, at Nicholas Dupue's; that they were to set off from thence this Morning for this place, with Intent to turn us out of Poſseſsion. We therefore have dispatched the Bearer to acquaint Your Honour of this Motion, and receive Your Orders how We are to treat them. We have wrote to Mr. Gordon, to send us, with all Speed, such Proceſses as may be neceſsary to take them with, in Case they attempt to settle or force a Poſseſsion into any of the Houses now built, if this should happen before Your Orders reach us. — We have not learnt the Names of any of them, except William Buck, who was formerly here, with those who were killed by the Indians. — Any Proceſses, that Your Honour may please to send us, may therefore be Blank as to the others; whose Names we shall insert as soon as we know them, and have sent to John Van Campen to find out for Us. — At present, We have only ten Men here, the others are returned home, after building their Houses. We still flatter Ourselves this Affair will end without Blows, as We have certainly weakened their Party, in this County, by getting the Vancampen's and Shoemaker's to take Lands in the Manor.

We are, Your Honours most Obedient Servants,
Charles Stewart,
John Jennings.

Wyoming, 6th February 1769.
The Honourable John Penn, Esquire.

The Governor having already written Answers to the above mentioned Letters, the Board took into their serious Consideration the Account of the ~~Account of the~~ late Proceedings of the Connecticut People, respecting their Design of making an immediate Settlement on the Susquehanna Lands, and were of Opinion that a Letter should be forthwith dispatched to the Governor of Connecticut, making him acquainted therewith, and requesting his Interposition in the Matter, and that he would use his Influence and Endeavours to put a Stop to the Evil Designs of those People, and thereby prevent the fatal Consequences that must unavoidably follow the Establishment of so illegal a Settlement. A Draught of a Letter being accordingly prepared, was read, and agreed to, and ordered to be Transcribed, and dispatched to the Governor of Connecticut by the Post. — The said Letter is as follows, Viz:

Philadelphia, 13th February, 1769.

Sir,

I have received certain Advice that, in Consequence of Resolutions entered into, by a Society of People, in your Province, who call themselves the Susquehanna Company, a Number of them are set out with a Design to enter upon and settle a part of the River Susquehanna which is within the bounds of the Charter of this Province, and the General Boundary settled last Fall with the Indians of the Six Nations, at Fort Stanwix, and which at the Treaty was purchased of those Indians for a very large Sum of Money by the Proprietaries of this Province. — It is given out too that a greater Number are soon to follow, and that these Adventurers have the Countenance of your Government, in their very unjust and illegal Undertaking; Yet when I consider that like attempts have been made heretofore, and how often the same wild Scheme has been disavowed by your Predecessors, as will appear by the Correspondance had between the Governors of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, in the Years 1754, 1755, 1761, and 1763, upon the Subject of the Claims and Pretensions of these Intruders, I cannot give Credit to this part of the Report.

It is alledged that these imprudent People found their unjust Claim partly in the Extent of the Original Charter of Connecticut, and partly on Purchases made of the Indians; But when it is considered that the Province of New York, in the hands of the Dutch, at the Time of the Connecticut Charter lay between that Colony and Susquehanna, it cannot be conceived how that Charter can operate to affect the place which is now the Subject of Contest. — Yet if there could possibly at first have been any Doubt of the Extent of that Charter, from the Words of it, the Settlement of its Western Limits by the Commissioners appointed between the Crown and that Colony as early as the Year 1664, has entirely cleared it up. Nor is any Claim which these Intruders can set up under Indian Purchases better founded than their Pretentions under the Extent of the Charter.— It is well known that the Indians never sell their Rights but in public Council, and it cannot be pretended that any Deeds made to the People of Connecticut were attended with that Solemnity.— Nay, it is Notorious, that at the Time these pretended Purchases were made, the Indians of the Six Nations refused in public Council, at the Treaty of Albany, the Year 1754, to sell these Lands to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, to whom alone they could sell them consistant with their prior Engagements entered into many Years before, and confirmed at that Treaty, and also at the late Treaty of Fort Stanwix. —— These Purchases were therefore always looked upon by the Six Nations as private and fraudulent, and inconsistent with their prior Engagements to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania; and accordingly the Settlements made by the People of your Province in 1755, at Wyoming, were highly resented and complained of by the Indians, who at length proceeded to the most fatal Enormities.— But if their Claims under these Deeds were not liable to these Objections, yet they were void by the Laws of this Province made many Years ago which prohibit the making of Purchases of the Indians by any but the Proprietaries.— So that in whatever Light the matter is considered, it is against these rash and inconsiderate People, who by their lawless Intrusions would again disturb the Peace and Tranquility of this Government. You may well imagine that, after the Proprietaries have paid so large a Consideration for this Country, so evidently within the Limits of their Charter, and have settled a Number of People upon it, which I must inform you is truly the Case, this Government cannot be tame Spectators of an illegal forcible Possession, taken by People who have not the least Colour of Right.

The Consequence therefore of these deluded Peoples persisting in their unwarrantable Designs must be a Scene of Violence and Confusion, which all good Men would wish to avert, and which it is the peculiar Duty of those who are in Public Stations to prevent.— I cannot suppose that the Government of Connecticut would encourage a Procedure so unreasonable and illegal, and big with mischievous Consequences, which I would rather hope they would use the utmost of their Power to prevent; and it is under this Expectation that I now apply to your Honour, requesting you to enquire into the Matter, to place it in a proper light to the people of your Colony, and to use your power and Influence to prevent the many fatal Consequences which must flow from their pursuit of any illegal or violent Measures. I am Sir with great Regard

Your most Obedient
humble Servant
John Penn

The Hon.ble William Pitkin, Esquire.

Upon this Occasion, the Board were of Opinion also, that some proper Persons at Wyoming should be cloathed with the Authority of Magistrates, for the preservation of the Peace, and for the better Execution of the Orders of the Government, in case the people of Connecticut should attempt to prosecute their Scheme of Settlement, or commit any Riots or Disturbances. And two special Commissions were accordingly issued, appointing Charles Stewart and Amos Ogden Esquires Justices of the County Court of Quarter Sessions of the peace for the County of Northampton.

The Governor then laid before the Board, a Bill sent up by the Assembly, entituled, "An Act for raising the "Sum of £16000 for the Support of the Government of this province, "and payment of the public Debts, and other purposes therein "mentioned"; which was read, and the Board were of Opinion that it would be proper to obtain from the Assembly a List of the Debts which were intended to be discharged by the Bills of Credit intended to be emitted pursuant to the said Bill. The Secretary was accordingly sent to the House with a verbal Message as follows, Viz.

"Sir,

"The Governor requests that the House will furnish him with "a List of the Certificates which the Bills of Credit directed to be emitted by the Bill for raising the Sum of £16000, &c. now under "his Consideration, are intended to take up and discharge."

Eodem Die, P. M.

Two Members of Assembly waited on the Governor, and agreeable to his Request of this Morning, delivered him an Estimate, or List of Debts, due from the Province of Pennsylvania.

At

Pennsylvania, 1769.

At a Council, held at Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the 15th of February 1769.

Present.

The Honorable John Penn, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Richard Peters } Benjamin Chew } Esquires
James Tilghman }

The Consideration of the Bill for raising the Sum of £16000, was resumed, and two Amendments were made to it and ordered to be carried to the House with the Bill.

Amendments viz:

Page 9 line 13.. After the Word [of] add the Word [them]
Page 16 line 9.. After the Word [her] add [Charges and]

Then were read two Bills, sent up by the House of Assembly for the Governors Concurrence, entituled as follows, Viz:

1..... "An Act, to enable the Commissioners therein after named, to settle "the Accounts of the Managers, and to sue for, and recover of them, their "Executors or Administrators, such Sums of Money as are now due and "unpaid on account of the Lottery drawn for erecting a new School House "for the High Dutch reformed Congregation, and for enabling the "Vestry and Wardens of Saint James's Church in the Borough of "Lancaster to compleat the work by them begun and also to enable "the Managers to sue for and recover Money due to them for the "Sale of Tickets in the said Lottery."

2......... "An Act, for a new Regulation of the Allotments of Banks, "Dams, Sluices and Flood Gates, belonging to the Tenicum Company "Owners and Possessors of drained Meadow Land in the Township of "Ridley in the County of Chester."

Which Bills were considered, and no Objections appearing against their passing into Laws, were ordered to be returned to the Assembly with the Governors Assent.

The Governor then laid before the Board a Bill entituled "An Act to enable the Owners and Possessors of the Wickacoa and "Moyamensing Meadows to erect a Dam across Hollanders Creek, near "its junction with Hay Creek and for other Purposes therein mentioned" — which was read, and ordered to be returned to the House with the following Amendments, Viz:

Page 1, line Penult, after the word [of] add the word [little]
Page 2, Penult and Antepenult Lines, — Dele the Words [Hollanders Creek

Same Page and pages 5, 6, and 7. Dele from the word [Time] in the Sixth Line of Page 4, to the word [and] exclusive in the fifth Line of Page 7, and instead thereof insert the Words [after the passing of this Act, (his former Marriage with the said Anne notwithstanding) to contract Matrimony with and take to Wife any other Woman during the Natural Life of the said Anne, in the same manner as he might or could do if she, the said Anne, was actually Dead, and such marriage, when had and solomnized, shall be, and is hereby declared and adjudged to be good and legal, to all intents and Purposes whatever, and the issue thereof, (if any) to be born in Lawful Wedlock, able and capable in Law to take, purchase, or inherit, by Will, Deed, or otherwise, any Estate, Real, Personal, or mixed, in the same manner as any other Person or legitimate Child, or Children, by the Laws of England, or of this Province, in any Case may or can do.]

"Page 8, Line 5. Instead of [thereafter], say [hereafter].

—

Eodem Die, P. M.

Two Members of Assembly waited on the Governor, and delivered him a Message from the House, which follows in these Words, Viz^t:

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

"May it please Your Honour:

"We have taken into our Consideration your Message acquainting us that a general Boundary Line was happily settled by Sir William Johnson, His Majesty's Superintendant of Indian Affairs, between the Indians of the Six Nations, the Delawares, and Shawanese, and His Majesty's middle Colonies. The accomplishment of a Measure so important to the British Interests in America, could not fail to give us the utmost satisfaction, as We have Reason to expect it will be the means of preserving that Harmony and Friendship between those Colonies and the Natives, which have heretofore, from various Causes, been too frequently interrupted. It is also particularly agreeable to us, to learn that the Proprietaries of this Province have purchased a large Tract of Country within that Boundary, from whence a Prospect is afforded of new and extensive Settlements, and a further Increase of Inhabitants within this Province. And as We esteem it our incumbent Duty, it shall be our constant Care to pay a strict Regard and attention to whatever Object His Majesty shall, in His Wisdom, be graciously pleased to recommend to our Consideration. Nothing, therefore, in our Power, shall be wanting which shall appear necessary and effectual to prevent future Settlements on the Lands unpurchased of the Indians, and every other Abuse, or Act of Injustice that can reasonably create in them a Disaffection to the Colonies in General, or this Province in particular.

"Signed by Order of the House,

"JOSEPH GALLOWAY, *Speaker*.

"February the 10th, 1769."

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Monday February 13th, 1769.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

William Logan,
Benjamin Chew,
Lynford Lardner,
James Tilghman, } Esquires.

The Governor laid before the Board a paper transmitted to him by Sir Henry Moore, Governor of New York, containing an account of the Proceedings and Resolutions of a number of People belonging to the Province of Connecticut, who call themselves the Susquehanna Company, at a late Meeting held at Hartford; as also a Letter from Lewis Gordon, Esquire, dated the 7th of February, Instant, and another from Charles Stewart and John Jennings, Esquire, Sheriff of Northampton, dated Wyoming the 6th Instant, which were severally read, and are as follow, Vizt:

Proceedings and Resolutions of the Susquehanna Company.

"WHEREAS, at a meeting of the Susquehanna Company, held at Hartford on the 18th Day of May, Anno Domini, 1763, said Company were advised that His Majesty, in his Royal Pleasure to inhibit all Entries and Settlements upon the said Lands, claimed by said Company, purchased of the Six Nations of Indians, lying on the River Susquehanna, until the state of the Case should be laid before His Majesty, and such precautions taken as might obviate any such Troubles with the Indians:

"*And Whereas*, said Company at said meeting, in pursuance of His Majesty's Order, did then Vote that no Person or Persons belonging to said Company shall enter upon or make any Settlements upon those Lands accordingly; *And Whereas*, The state of the Case, respecting those Lands, have been laid before His Majesty in Council, and in pursuance of His Majesty's Orders, such precautions have been taken in setling the Line with the Indians, and in paying and satisfying them for all the Lands lying East of the said Line, settled as aforesaid, as fully to obviate any fresh Troubles with the Indians, on account of any Claim or Settlement of the English, within the aforesaid Line. *Thereupon*, it is now voted by the said

Company to proceed and settle said Lands lying on and adjacent to said Susquehanna River, purchased from the Indians by said Company, lying within the Line settled with the Indians as aforesaid, at the late Congress at Fort Stanwix, as soon as conveniently may be. *Voted*, that forty Persons upwards of the age of twenty-one years, Proprietors in said Purchase, and approved by the Company hereafter nominated and appointed, proceed to enter upon and take possession of said Land, for, and in behalf of said Company, by the first day of February next; and that two hundred more of the age aforesaid, proceed and join said forty on the Lands aforesaid, as early in the Spring as may be, for the purpose aforesaid, not later than the first Day of May next; and that in order to encourage said forty Persons to proceed, settle, take possession of said Lands for and in behalf of said Company, that there be paid into the hands of a Committee appointed and hereafter named, to and for the Use of said forty the sum of £200, to be laid out by said Committee, in providing proper materials, sustenance and Provisions for said forty, as at the Direction of said Committee shall be thought needful and proper. And for the further encouragement of the said two hundred, who may join them in the Spring, according to the foregoing vote, it is further considered and voted to lay out five Townships of Land within the purchase of said Company, and within the Line settled with the Indians aforesaid, of five miles square each, three on the one side of the River and two of them on the other opposite side the River, adjoining and opposite to each other, only the River parting, at such place on the said River as they may think proper, each of said Townships to be five miles on the River, and to extend in equal wedth back five miles, to be and belong to the said forty, and the said two hundred persons, over and above their respective Shares and Proportions in the remainder of the general Purchase, in manner following, viz^{t.}: That the said forty have their first Choice of said five Townships, which they shall chuse to be and belong to the said forty; and the other four to be and belong to the said two hundred, to be divided out to them by fifty's on a Township, as they shall think proper, reserving and appropriating three whole Rights or Shares in each Township, for the Public Use of a Gospel Minister and Schools, in each of said Towns; and also reserving for the use of said Company, and for their after disposal, all Beds, Mine, Iron Ore, and Coals, that may be within said Townships. The aforesaid Townships to be held by said forty and said two hundred, on Condition of their entering upon and take Possession, according to the above Vote; and also of their continuing thereon, holding and Improving the same, by themselves, their Heirs and Assigns, under Said Company, for the space of five Years after this Entry, as aforesaid; and that they shall not so disorderly conduct and behave themselves as shall by the Company be judged inconsistent with the Good and Interest of said Company; And that they hold not the same or any other Part of said Purchase under pretence of any other Claim but of said Company, if the first Number approved by said Company shall fall short of forty, or of those that do proceed to join them in the spring shall fall short of two hundred. Nevertheless, those that do proceed according to the above Vote, to be entituled to their respective parts or Shares in the said five Townships, in full, as though the whole number were compleated. And, in Order that proper Persons, and such as may appear to be most Subservient to the benefit of said Company, may be orderly introduced as first settlers on said Lands, Voted that a Company be appointed in each County in this Colony, as also some meet Person or Persons in the neighboring Colonies, to admit and approve of such Persons as may offer themselves for the first settlers, according to the foregoing Vote. And, that Colonel Samuel Talcoot, Major Eleazor Talcoot, Jonathan Pettebone, and Jonathan Root, Esquires, for the County of Hartford; Daniel Lyman, Esquire, Michael Baldwin, and Captain Maycock Ward, for the County of New Haven; Samuel Ely, Esquire, Gersham Breed, and Captain Obadiah Gore, for the County of New London; Cornelius Hull, Nathan Berdseye, Benjamin Selly, for the County of Fairfield; John Smyth, Samuel Gray, Esquires, and John Jenkins, for the County of Windham; Increase Mosley, Samuel Canfield, Esquires, and Benjamin Stephens, for the County of Litchfield; William Busk and John Woodworth, for the Province of New York; Timothy Woodbridge, Esquire, for the Province of the Massachusetts Bay; Isaac Trip, Job Randal, and Ezra Dean, for the Colony of Rhode Island, be, and are hereby appointed Committee, jointly and severally, to approve and admit of the aforesaid two hundred Persons proposed as first Settlers on said Lands, in such a manner and proportion as they shall agree, so as not to exceed the number proposed; And that Isaac Trip, Benjamin Tollet, John Jenkins, William Burk, and Mr. Benjamin Shomaker, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to approve and admit, oversee, Superintend, manage, and order the affairs of the first forty Settlers, to raise the Monies granted to their Use, to lay out and prepare a convenient Road to Susquehanna River, for which purpose they are to receive fifty Pounds, to be laid out in preparing a Road as aforesaid, for the Benefit of the said Company, and to account with the Standing Committee of said Company therefor; And, upon any, or either of said last mentioned Committee failing to attend said Trust to which they are appointed, the place, or places, to be supplied by such other Person or Persons as shall be chosen by the major part of said forty first Settlers; And upon the arrival of the two hundred proposed to join the said forty in the Spring, they may, if they see cause, together with the said forty, by their major Vote, add to said Committee, so as to make the whole number of nine, who shall then be the Committee to oversee, ordain, and regulate the Affairs of said Settlers, and other of said Company who may join them, until further or otherwise Ordered by said Company; which said Committee, by a Major Vote of Settlers there present, duly convened, may expel from, any Person among them who shall so disorderly conduct and behave, or shall by them be judged inconsistant with the good and Interest of said Company, and may declare the Right of such Persons in said Purchase forfeit, which shall so remain, unless said Company, at any after meetings, upon hearing Cause of Complaint, shall otherwise determine.

Passed in the Affirmative.

Voted that if any Settler or Settlers on the aforesaid Lands, in pursuance of the Vote of this Company, shall be sued or prosecuted in the Law by the proprietors of Pennsylvania, or any under them, on account of such his Settlement and Possession, that, on proper Notice being given to the standing Committee of said Company, that the Company will be at the Cost of his or their Defence in said suit.

A Letter to the Governor from Lewis Gordon, Esquire.

"EASTON, 7th February, 1769.

"Sir:

"A few Hours ago I received a Letter by Express, from Messieurs Stewart and Jennings, now at Wyoming, intimating that they had Intelligence from the Minisinks that a large Body of New England Men were to set off from thence for Wyoming, in order to take forcible possession of those Lands, requesting my Advice how they are to conduct themselves until they shall receive your instructions on this Head. The Express is this Moment set off for John Allens, Esquires, at the Union. This Moment the Constable of the Minisinks is come down to me, on the same account, and informs there are at least between forty and fifty New England Men in his Neighbourhood, on their Journey to Wyoming, and that they have a great many friends amongst them. He is an active Man, and seems well disposed to serve the Government; wherefore, I shall (as soon as I can learn any of the New England People's names, which I expect a List of this Night,) issue a Warrant against them, to be executed by the same Constable, whom I detain on purpose, and endeavour all that lies in my Power to apprehend them, and put a stop to this dangerous scheme, a Copy of which I have taken the liberty to inclose, that, in Case there be any defect, it may speedily be rectified. I beg your Honour will excuse this scrawl, having been busy all Day, and the Bearer impatient to be gone, and believe that I am, with the greatest Respect, Sir,

"Your most Obedient, and most humble Servant,

"LEWIS GORDON.

"The Honourable John Penn, Esquire."

A Letter to the Governor from Charles Stewart and John Jennings, Esquire.

"Sir:

"By an Express from John Vancampen, we have received information that upwards of one hundred New England Men were last Saturday at Nicholas Dupue's, that they were to set off from thence this Morning for this place, with Intent to turn us out of Possession. We therefore have dispatched the Bearer to acquaint your Honour of this Motion, and receive your Orders how we are to treat them. We have wrote to Mr. Gordon to send us, with all speed, such processes as may be necessary to take them with, in Case they attempt to settle or force a Possession into any of the Houses now built, if this should happen before your Orders reach us. We have not learnt the names of any of them except William Buck, who was formerly here, with those who were killed by the Indians. Any processes that your Honour may please to send us may therefore be Blank; as to the others whose names we shall insert as soon as we know them, and have sent to John Van Campen to find out for us. At present we have only ten men here; the others are returned home after building their Houses. We still flatter ourselves this affair will end without Blows, as we have certainly weakened their party in this County by getting the Vancampens and Shoemakers to take Lands in the Manor.

"We are, Your Honour's Most Obedient Servants,

"CHARLES STEWART,
"JOHN JENNINGS.

"The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire.

"Wyoming, 6th February, 1769."

The Governor having already written Answers to the above mentioned Letters, the Board took into their Serious Consideration the account of the late proceedings of the Connecticut People, respecting their Design of making an immediate Settlement on the Susquehanna Lands, and were of Opinion that a Letter should be forthwith dispatched to the Governor of Connecticut, making him acquainted therewith, and requesting his Interposition in the matter, and that he would use his Influence and Endeavors to put a stop to the Evil Designs of those people, and thereby prevent the fatal Consequences that must unavoidably follow the Establishment of so illegal a Settlement. A Draught of a Letter being accordingly prepared, was read and agreed to, and ordered to be Transcribed and dispatched to the Governor of Connecticut by the post. The said Letter is as follows, viz^{t}:

"PHILADELPHIA, 13th February, 1769.

"Sir:

"I have received certain Advice that in Consequence of Resolutions entered into by a Society of People in your Province, who call themselves the Susquehanna Company, a number of them are set out with a Design to enter upon and settle a part of the River Susquehanna, which is within the Bounds of the Charter of this Province, and the General Boundary Settled last fall with the Indians of the Six Nations, at Fort Stanwix, and which at that Treaty was purchased of those Indians for a very large Sum of money by the Proprietaries of this Province. It is given out, too, that a greater Number are Soon to follow, and that these Adventurers have the Countenance of your Government in their very unjust and illegal Undertaking; Yet, when I consider that like attempts have been made heretofore, and how often the same wild Scheme has been disavowed by your predecessors, as will appear by the Correspondence had between the Governors of Connecticut and Pennsylvania, in the Years 1754, 1755, 1761, and 1763, upon the Subject of the Claim's and pretentions of these Intruders, I cannot give Credit to this part of the Report.

"It is alledged that these imprudent People found their unjust Claim partly in the Extent of the Original Charter of Connecticut, and partly on purchases made of the Indians. But when it is considered that the Province of New York, in the hands of the Dutch, at the Time of the Connecticut Charter, lay between that Colony and Susquehanna, it cannot be conceived how that Charter can operate to affect the place which is now the subject of Contest.

"Yet, if there could possibly at first have been any Doubt of the Extent of that Charter, from the Words of it, the settlement of its Western Limits by the Commissioners appointed between the Crown and that Colony so early as the year 1664, has entirely cleared it up. Nor is any Claim which these Intruders can set up under Indian purchases, better founded than their pretentions under the Extent of the Charter. It is well known that the Indians never sell their Rights but in public Council, and it cannot be pretended that any Deeds made to the People of Connecticut were attended with that solemnity. Nay, it is notorious that at the Time these pretended purchases were made, the Indians of the Six Nations refused in public Council, at the Treaty of Albany, in the year 1754, to sell these Lands to the proprietaries of Pennsylvania, to whom alone they could sell them consistent with their prior Engagements entered into many years before, and confirmed at that Treaty, and also at the late Treaty at Fort Stanwix. These purchases were therefore, always looked upon by the Six Nations as private and fraudulent, and inconsistent with their prior Engagements to the proprietaries of Pennsylvania; and accordingly, the settlements made by the people of your Province in 1755, at Wyoming, were highly resented and complained of by the Indians, who at length proceeded to the most fatal Extremities. But if their Claims under those Deeds were not liable to these Objections, yet they were void by the Laws of this Province, made many years ago, which prohibit the making of purchases of the Indians by any but the proprietaries. So that in whatever Light the matter is considered, it is against these rash and inconsiderate people who, by their lawless Intrusions, would again disturb the peace and Tranquility of this Government. You may well imagine, that after the proprietaries have paid so large a Consideration for this Country, so evidently within the Limits of their Charter, and have settled a Number of people upon it, which I must inform you is truly the case, this Government cannot be tame spectators of an illegal forcible possession, taken by People who have not the least Colour of Right.

"The Consequence therefore, of these deluded People's persisting in their unwarrantable Designs, must be a scene of violence and confusion, which all good Men would wish to avert, and which it is the peculiar Duty of those who are in public stations to prevent. I cannot suppose that the Government of Connecticut would encourage a procedure so unreasonable and illegal, and big with mischievous Consequences, which I would rather hope they would use the utmost of their power to prevent; and it is under this Expectation that I now apply to your Honour, requesting you to enquire into the Matter, to place it in a proper Light to the people of your Colony, and to use your power and Influence to prevent the many fatal Consequences which must flow from their pursuit of any illegal or violent Measures.

"I am sir, with great Regard,
"Your most Obedient
"humble Servant,
"JOHN PENN.

"The Hon^{ble} WILLIAM PITKIN, Esquire."

Upon this Occasion, the Board were of Opinion also, that some proper Persons at Wyoming should be cloathed with the Authority of magistrates for the preservation of the Peace, and for the better Execution of the Orders of the Government, in Case the People of Connecticut should attempt to prosecute their Scheme of Settlement, or commit any Riots or Disturbances, and two special Commissions were accordingly issued, appointing Charles Stewart and Amos Ogden, Esquires, Justices of the County Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County of Northampton.

The Governor then laid before the Board a Bill sent up by the the Assembly, entituled "An Act for raising the Sum of £16,000 for the Support of the Government of this province, and payment of the Public Debts, and other purpose therein mentioned;" which was read, and the Board were of Opinion that it would be proper to obtain from the assembly a List of the Debts which were intended to be discharged by the Bills of Credit intended to be emitted pursuant to the said Bill. The Secretary was accordingly sent to the House with a verbal message as follows, viz^{t}:

"Sir:

"The Governor requests that the House will furnish him with a List of the Certificates which the Bills of Credit directed to be emitted by the Bill for raising the Sum of £16,000, &c., now under his Consideration, are intended to take up and discharge."

Eodem Die, P. M.

Two members of Assembly waited on the Governor, and agreeable to his Request of this morning, delivered him an Estimate or List Debts due from the Province of Pennsylvania.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Wednesday the 15th of February, 1769.

PRESENT:

The Honourable **JOHN PENN**, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c^{a}

Richard Peters,	Benjamin Chew,	Esquires.
James Tilghman,		

The Consideration of the Bill for raising the Sum of £16,000 was resumed, and two Amendments were made to it, and ordered to be carried to the House with the Bill.

Amendments, viz^{t}:

"Page 9, line 13. After the word [of] add the word [them].

"Page 16, line 9. After the word [her] add [charges and]."

Then were read two Bills sent up by the House of Assembly for the Governor's concurrence, entituled as follows, Viz^{t}:

"1. An Act to enable the Commissioners therein after named, to settle the accompts of the Managers, and to sue for and recover of them, their Executors, or administrators, such Sums of Money as are now due and unpaid on account of the Lottery drawn for erecting a new School House for the High Dutch reformed Congregation, and for enabling the Vestry and Wardens of Saint James' Church, in the Borough of Lancaster, to compleat the work by them begun, and also, to enable the managers to sue for and recover money due to them for the Sale of Tickets in the said Lottery."

"An Act for a new Regulation of the allotments of Banks, Dams, Sluices, and Flood Gates, belonging to the Tinicum Company, Owners and Possessors of drained meadow Land in the Township of Ridley, in the County of Chester."

Which Bills were considered, and no Objections appearing against their passing into Laws, were ordered to be returned to the Assembly with the Governor's Assent.

The Governor then laid before the Board a Bill entituled "An Act to enable the Owners and Possessors of the Wickacoa and Moyamensing meadows, to erect a Dam across Hollander's Creek, near its Junction with Hay Creek, and for other Purposes therein mentioned," which was read, and ordered to be returned to the House with the following Amendments, Viz^t^:

"Page 1, Line Penult. After the word [of] add the word [little].

"Page 2, Penult and antepenult Lines. Dele the Words [Hollander's Creek near its Junction with Hay Creek,] and instead thereof insert the words, [little Hollander's Creek, below the Mouth of little Hay Creek, and near the Junction of the Waters of Great Hollander's Creek and Great Hay Creek.]"

"Pages 2 and 3.—Dele the Words [and at such place and Distance] in the last Line of page 2—and the Words [from Hay Creek] in the first Line of page 3."

"Page 3, Line 9.—after the word [said], add the word [little.]"

"Page 5, Line 7.—after the word [across] add the word [little.]"

"Page 11, Line 1.—after the word [upon] add the words [the said.]"

"Page 13, Line 6.—after the word [down] add the word [little.]"

The Governor also laid before the Board a Bill sent up by the Assembly for Concurrence, entituled "An Act to enable the owners and Possessors of a certain Tract of Marsh and Meadow Land therein described, situate in the Township of Kingsess, in the County of Philadelphia, to keep the Banks, Dams and Sluices in repair, and to raise a Fund to defray the Expences thereof"—which was read and referred to further Consideration.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Thursday 16th February, 1769.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c^a^

Benjamin Chew, James Tilghman,	Esquires.

The Board resumed the Consideration of the Bill for enabling the owners of a Tract of Meadow Land in Kingsess, to keep the Banks, Dams, &c^a^, in Repair, &c^a^, and ordered the same to be returned to the House with two small amendments.

Two members of Assembly having yesterday again brought up to the Governor the Bill for raising the sum of £16,000, with a Message that the House adhered to the Bill; the Board took the samd into Consideration, and directed the Secretary to return the said Bill to the House with the following verbal Message, viz^t^:

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To all Christian People unto whom this
this present Writing shall come We Jacob, Petrus, Peter & Adam
Chiefs and Proprietors of the Country of the Acquago Indians and
The Principal Chiefs of the Acquago's Send Greeting Know Ye
that We Jacob, Petrus, Peter & Adam and the Nation we represent
out of a Sincere regard and long friendship ~~for Colonel~~ John Bradstreet
of the City of Albany and for divers good Causes and valuable Consi=
derations us hereunto moving Have Given and Granted, and by these
presents do give Grant and Confirm unto the said Colonel John Bradstreet
and to his heirs and Assigns for ever all that Certain Tract or Tracts
of Land (of which we we are the rightfull Owners) Situate lying and being
& bounded as follows beginning at the mouth of a Creek called
Canniskutty where it empties into the Mohock Branch of the
the River Delaware, and at the Corner of Harper's Purchase and running
Northerly along the Line of said Purchase to the mouth of a Creek called
Owerthouit where it empties into the River Susquehanna, and down
& ye Susquehanna till it comes opposite the mouth of a River
the said river or Creek called Tionaderah which empties into the said
River Susquehanna, from thence by a direct Line to Strike the Delaware
at the Termination of a Line proposed to be drawn from Owegy on Sus=

the River Delaware, and at the Corner of Harpers Purchase
Northerly along the Line of said Purchase to the mouth of a Creek called
Owerhouwt where it empties into the River Susquehanna, and down
& Susquehanna till it comes opposite the mouth of a River
thesaid river or Creek called Tionaderah which empties into thesaid
River Susquehanna, from thence by a direct Line to Strike the Delaware
at the Termination of a Line proposed to be drawn from Owegy on Sus-
quehanna due East to thesaid river Delaware from thence to the mouth
of Popaghtung branch of Delaware, and up thesame to its Source, from
thence by a direct Line to the head of the Mohock branch of said Dela-
-ware at the Easterly Corner of Harpers Purchase, and thence down
thesaid Mohock branch to the mouth of the before mentioned Creek
Called Caniuscutty being the place of beginning with all the Mines
Minerals, Rivers, Hills, Timber and other things within thesaid
Premiſses or Tract of Land from hence forth to his and their own uses
thereof and therewith to do, order and dispose of at his or their wills
and pleaſure, as of their own proper Lands Goods and Chattles freely
and peaceably and quietly without any manner of Lett or Denial of us
thesaid Jacob, Petrus, Peter & Adam or any of our nations or any other
Perſon or Perſons whatsoever of all which Premiſses we thesaid Jacob,
Petrus, Peter & Adam And the nations we represent have put thesaid
Colonel John Bradstreet into full and peaceable Poſſeſsion by virtue
hereof, and most humbly pray that our Great King & father would
be Graciouſly pleased (as we have excepted the before mentioned Lands

thence by a direct Line to the head of the Mohock branch of said Delaware at the Easterly Corner of Harpers Purchase, and thence down the said Mohock branch to the mouth of the before mentioned Creek called Caniiscutty being the place of beginning with all the Mines Minerals Rivers, Hills, Timber and other things within the said Premiſses or Tract of Land from hence forth to his and their own uses thereof and therewith to do, order and diſpose of at his or their wills and pleaſure, as of their own proper Lands Goods and Chattles freely and peaceably and quietly without any manner of Lett or Denial of us the said Jacob, Petrus, Peter & Adam or any of our nations or any other Perſon or Perſons whatſoever of all which Premiſses we the said Jacob Petrus, Peter & Adam And the nations we represent have put the said Colonel John Bradstreet into full and peaceable Poſseſsion by virtue hereof, and most humbly pray that our Great King & father would be Graciouſly pleased (as we have excepted the before mentioned Lands out of those we are now granting to his Majesty at this Congreſs at Fort Stanwix And from an Ardent deſire to make this token of our Esteem and friendship for the said Colonel John Bradstreet of Some value to him) to ratify and Confirm these presents unto the said Colonel John Bradstreet his Heirs and Aſsigns for ever in Such manner and will at as little Expence as our Great King and father shall

188 Judge most proper, as a mark of his Majesty's Goodness and Bounty to the sd Colonel John Bradstreet and particular favour and esteem for us In witness whereof we the said Jacob Petrus Peter & Adam have hereunto Sett our hands and seals with the Arms of the Nations we represent at Fort Stanwix the twenty Ninth day of October in the Year of our Lord one thousand Seven Hundred & Sixty eight — — — —

Jacob his mark L.S.

Petrus his mark L.S. Peter his mark L.S. Adam + his mark L.S.

Sealed & Dd in the presence of us John Butler Gilbert Tice

City of Albany ss: } Be it remembered that on this twenty second day of February one thousand Seven hundred and sixty nine Personally Appeared before me Volckert Pr Douw Esqr Mayor of the City of Albany and one of the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the City & County of Albany John Butler Esquire one of the Subscribing Witnesses to the within deed and made oath that he saw the within Mentioned Jacob, Petrus, Peter and Adam Indians Sign Seal and [illegible] act and deed

City of Albany ſs: } Be it remembered that on this twenty second day of February one thousand Seven hundred and sixty nine Personally Appeared before me Volckert P. Douw Esqr. Mayor of the City of Albany and one of the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the City & County of Albany John Butler Esquire one of the Subscribing Witnesses to the within deed and made oath that he saw the within Mentioned Jacob, Peterus, Peter and Adam Indians Sign Seal and Deliver the within mentioned deed as their Voluntary act and deed for the uses therein mentioned and that he saw Gilbert Tice the other Subscribing witness also Sign the same at the Same time that he did And having Carefully Examined the Same and finding no Erazures or Interlinations therein do allow the same to be Entered on Record

Volckert P. Douw

I do hereby Certify that the aforegoing Record is a true Copy of Original Exd. & Compd. this twenty second day of February 1769

p. me Step: DeLancey Clerk

To all to whom these presents shall come or may concern Greeting Know Ye that I Stephen Van Dyck of Loonenburgh in the County of Albany Esqr. for divers good causes and Considerations him thereunto moving Hath remised released & forever quit claimed and by these presents for himself & his heirs doth fully clearly and did and I having Carefully Examined the Same and finding no Erazures or Interlinations therein do allow the same to be Entered on Record — — Volckert P. Douw

I do hereby Certify that the aforegoing Record is a true Copy of Original Ex.d & Compar.d this twenty second day of February 1769

p me Step: DeLancey Clerk

To all to whom these presents shall come or may concern Greeting Know Ye that I Stephen Van Dyck of Loonenburgh in the County of albany Esq.r for divers good causes and Considerations him thereunto moving Hath remised released & for ever quit claimed and by these presents for himself & his heirs doth fully clearly and absolutely remise release & for ever quit claim unto his brothers Henderick & Lowrance Van Dyck (hereby approving of his fathers & mothers last will bearing date the Eleventh day of June one thousand seven hundred and fifty nine & acknowledging a further Consideration of Seven Shillings to him in hand paid) & in their full & peaceable possession & Seizin thereof now being and to their Heirs & assigns for ever as Tenants in Common all such right estate title interest & demand whatsoever as he — the said Stephen Van Dyck had or ought to have if these presents had never been made [illegible] detained for the Battoes, [ ]not proceed as fast as they; & if you were to depend [on wago]ns at the Different places where they woud be wanted, [ ] a disapointment, & the Corn be delayd. Mr. Vander[Heyden]his method the best, & takes Waggons from Schenectady [ ] himself, because he has been greatly imposed upon [ ] live on the road. You'll please to inform me which [ ]

I am Sr. Yr. most Obedt. Servt.
SAML. STRINGER

ADDRESSED: To On His Majts Service
Sir William Johnson Bart.
To Care of Jna. at
V: Eps Esqr. at Johnson Hall
Schenectady

INDORSED: [ ]
[ ] Letter
Ansrd. 27th. Inst.—

FROM HUGH GAINE

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 422, is listed a letter of the 22d, New York, from Hugh Gaine, saying that 283 Indian prayer books have been sent, morocco for binding must be got in Boston, he sends a set of the laws of last session and will obtain Bayle's General Dictionary from London as soon as "we are permitted to import any Goods from that Part of the World." (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.* 4:411–12; Q. 4:258–59.)

FROM THOMAS GAGE

A. L. S.[1]

New York April 23d. 1769.

DR: SIR,

I have received your's of the 14th: Inst:, The Settling on Lands below the Canawa will be a ticklish Business every way for if the Six Nations give up their Right to them we shall Sooner or later have a Quarrell with the Cherokees about them. If the Government is determined to maintain the Boundarys ascertained by the Board of Trade, The Lands in Question at least our Claim to them from the Cession Made at the late Treaty at Fort Stanwix,[1] must be given up agreeable to the orders of Government, which will annull in part the Claims set forth by the Colony of Virginia. The Claims of that Colony are transmitted home, and I apprehend Some Resolution will soon be taken about them, and put you out of doubt how you Should act.

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[1] In Harvard College Library, Cambridge, Mass.

I am sorry the Indians are in such Distress for Food as you represent, if they must absolutely receive Assisstance from us, the best way and I apprehend the cheapest Method, will be to purchase Corn on the Mohock River. Nothing relative to the Provision affairs will for the future go through the Commissary General, but for the Troops; or any stores erected or Provision Sent but to such Places where the Troops are or shall be posted so that such Provisions as May hereafter be wanted, will be a Charge to your Department, independent of all Military Expenditures of Provision. I now Make Returns home every Six Months to the Treasury and Pay-office of the Provisions issued throughout the Continent. What is issued to struggling Indians or at proper Times to Nations who go to the Posts where the Troops are Stationed, Must go on as usual, there is no Means to change the Method usualy practiced in that Respect.

I transmit you an Extract of an Account Sent me by Colonel Bradstreet, which seems entirely to belong to your Department. These Expences I suppose were incurred on Account of the late Treaty so May be settled but Some of the People make large Demands for Detention, and I would beg to know, whether they have made these Demands Themselves, or if you have certified their Services and what you know concerning these several

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[1] Compare maps opposite page 30 and page 136, vol. 8, *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*

Demands, as to the Manner in which the Services are ascertained to have been performed by the Claimants.

I am with great Regard,

Dear Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
THO^{S}. GAGE

S^{R}: W^{M}: JOHNSON Bar^{t}.

INDORSED: April 23^{d}. 1769.

From General Gage.

TO SAMUEL AUCHMUTY

Df.[1]

Johnson Hall April 26th 1769

DEAR SIR

I was lately favored with your Letter of the 6th Inst in Answer to one of mine wrote long since, on the Subject of the person you Mention of whose Sentiments I entertain Much the same Thoughts with yourself, and altho I know of no Reason he can have for any personal Dislike to me, or mine Yet I can easily believe from his communications (as you Observe) That he might be induced to take Libertys with both until he meets with proper Treatment.—

I am Glad to hear of your Assiduity in endeavoring to procure the Missionaries &ca, tho' much concerned to find the difficulties that have hitherto prevented your Success,— I was almost in despair of procuring Schoolmasters from Below, and therefore having Met with Two persons Well Qualified & recommended for that Charge, I have lately agreed with the one for the Mohocks & the other for Johnstown which I hope will be no disappointment to the person whose Letter you inclosed I have been as yet obliged to put the Schoolmaster into the Fort at the Mohocks, as the Gent. in Mr. Barclays house has not had warning wch it is necessary he shod.

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[1] In Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

Since the last I mentioned I have had no Letters from the Society, I hope their Zeal will not abate in so reasonable & necessary an Attention to the Church, which if timely Succoured & Supplyed with Pastors will flourish, otherwise it will fall Speedily to decay, & in a few Years Cease to Exist here.—

I thank you for the News & politicks & am very happy to find that your Affairs are now circumstanced as you represent, You have a respectable body at N. York who will Support their credit & that of the Church so long as they Continue Unanimous, and Shew a laudable Zeal in favor of their Religion & its professors.— it must be a Sensible Mortification to the persons you mention to find that they are disappointed of ruling as they used to do but whatever Changes may have been produced by the late Election, I apprehend it is as yet hard to tell what the present Assembly will do in these Cases.—

It is matter of much concern to me to find that After building a Church & Parsonage house & being at other great Expences to forward the Establishmt of a Missionary where he is so much Wanted, I should still be without one.—

If the person you Mention would Settle as a Catechist & Schoolmaster at Conajohary he wod. be of great Service there & might Soon Learn the Language after which the Society wod. probably Settle him as a Missionary on his taking Orders —

The REVD. DR. AUCHMUTY

INDORSED: April 26th 1769
To Dr. Auchmuty.

Commandeert & generaele uytvaert vant ge:
heele Landt, waer van den ingesetenen sal
daer naer sullen hebben, te onderhouden, & dien:
volgens haer selven daer toe conformeren op st
raffe, Gegeven onder myn handt in N:
York den 11 April 1679

E. Andros

By Command &
Gover^nr^ in Counsell.

Gepasseert door
~~Secretary~~
M. Nicolls Secr.

X

At A Councell, ye 25 April 1679

A Certain Onnyde ~~Sachem~~ Indian called Sowandanock arrived here come sent Expresse by his ~~[illegible]~~ Sachem they Onnydes to be Informed ~~[illegible]~~ whether ye Messengers sent by his Hon.r to Virginia and Maryland were arrived yet, and ~~[illegible]~~ to know what newes of ye Indian Squae her kinswoman

X

Ye ~~[illegible]~~ Indian is Answered, that his Hon.r has not as yett ~~[illegible]~~ given any information of ye matter and doe withall Recommend further to ye other Sachems to performe ye Promise in sending of ye 3 Prisoners whom they doe daily Expect and yt ye need not doubt but his Hon.r will doe yt which shall be fitting and soe continued well friends

127

Ick ondergeschr. Gert. van Slichtenhorst
bekenne by d' [illegible] voldaen [illegible] te wesen
~~[illegible] van [illegible]~~ [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~
vant [illegible] gemaeckt door d' [illegible]
land [illegible] [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~
[illegible] Coopbrieff date den 19 April 1675 welcke
somme importeert 1100 gl. alleenig van alle
actie & pretentie [illegible] hem [illegible]
handen [illegible] der werelt tot dato deses
verclaerende hem voor goed en wel [illegible]
[illegible] dit [illegible] van
Actum [illegible] onderteeckent op den
April

& dat voor [illegible]

[illegible] den [illegible] d' eerw [illegible] hadt hem daer [illegible] in saecke

Actum 25 April 1671

Alhier een Indiaen alhier
gekomen met naeme Sowandanowe
gesonden expresse van [illegible]
om geinformeert te worden
of [illegible] die [illegible] uyt
Virginie & Marylandt [illegible] besonder
doorzyde [illegible] met [illegible] gekomen der
[illegible] daer geen [illegible] van
d' opgemelde [illegible]

X

& hem geantwoordt dat wy [illegible] al
niet [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ geinformeert dan wy
recommanderen nochmaels [illegible] & de
andere [illegible] dat zy haer [illegible] vol=
brengen int [illegible] van de [illegible] dan wy
[illegible] [illegible] & ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible]
niet te twijfelen [illegible] soo sall [illegible]
[illegible] tot haer [illegible] .

land [a]larms our Pious Gentry Very much & [ ] limits to Mason and his friends [ ] the Customs inform'd me that [four regiments are] Expected from England at Hallyfax Every day — that one of those [ ] go to New Port — the other three being [ ] to keep good orders in the great Town

inclosed is A part of an [ ] paper which I believed might not be a miss [ ] you — it will make Me Extreemly Happy [ ] Hear from you and know the state of your Health which God Almighty in his infinite [ ] Grant may be perfectly Restored — M^{rs} Chew [ ] the Little Boy and Girl were pretty well when I [ ] New London I am sure their best Respects and w[ ] are always Offerd to and for you and I am m[ ] Respectfully and truely

Dear sir
Your most O[ ]
Most H[ ]
Jos CH[EW]

the select men of the Town of Boston have prottested against General M^{c} Kay for not marching the troops out of the Antient Town before their General Election —

ADDRESSED: To
The Hon^{ble}. Sir William Johnson Bar^{t}.
Johnson Hall

TO JOHN BRADSTREET

Df.

Johnson Hall May 17th. 1769

I have had the favour of Yours of the 10th Cur^{t}. with the Inclosure delivered to me the 15th. by Doctor Shuckburgh with whom I had a good deal of discourse on the Subject of the dispute between you & Hardenbergh, & I think there are some Anecdotes worthy Notice, I shall mention one, Viz^{t}. His being present in 1734 when the Chiefs of Scoharee *Seth* & *Hance Ury* &ca Summoned the Esopus or Delawares to a Meeting, & told them that if ever they attempted to Sell any Lands Westward of Catskill Hills they would destroy them, or in their own Words hunt them up like Deer. I think it would not be amiss to talk with him on the Subject, [Wh]en many more things might occur to him.

A few Days ago I had the Chiefs of the Mohawks [here] with whom I spoke on that Subject they seemed [unacqua]inted therewith, Except one called *White Hance* [who said] that he had always heard, that from the Head [of the Delawa]re (which comes from a little Lake called [Pepachton?]) to the Westward was the property of [ ] that the Delawares had no right over [ ] by his Description must be the Paupaghton Branch, this Man is [ ]

I have this Moment examined a B[ ] who is reckoned sensible, His Father was the [ ] Oneida called *Aguiota* & their Oracle in all mat[ters] I expected to have heard something material from [ ] disapointed, for he knows no more about it, than to [ ] his Father often say that the Lands on the East Side was the property of the River Indians or Delawares *Thomas King* at Home He would readily go to, & S[peak to] them River Indians &ca about it & clear up the Aff[air.] very knowing that way I have heard him talk larg[ ] Subject some few years ago, & declare in the warm[est] that his Nation the *Oneidas* were the right owners [ ] from the East Branch of Delaware Westwards & [ ] of it to whom they pleased, but he is not returned fr[om the] Cherokee Country whither He & others escorted [the deputies] of that Nation last year.— I do not recollect [ ] Coppys to be taken of them papers which the [Esopus Indians] shewed me Except the Article of Agree-

ment be[tween] General Nicols which were falling to pieces [ ] also Coppied, I shall have them looked for [ ] to you. I wish you Success, & am tru[ ]
[ ]

sir

FROM JOHN STEVENSON

A. L. S.

Albany 18th. May 1769

I am favoured with Yours of the 11th. Ins^{t}. by M^{r}. Wemp and according to your Order send you the Bill inclosed of the Iron, Steel and Files Sent by him the Files I bought not haveing any of my own

My Brother desires his best respects to you I am

Sir
Your Most Obed^{t}.
and Humble
Serv^{t}
JOHN STEVENSON

ADDRESSED: To
The Honourable
Sir William Johnson Baronett
att
Johnson Hall

PLAN FOR INDIAN TRADE

D.

[*New York, May 19, 1769*]

That this Colony impose a Duty of one Shilling Currency per Gallon on all Rum or distilled Liquor sold at Niagara, (and three per Cent on all dry Goods sold at Niagara) and Detroit. That the Colonies of Pennsylvania and Quebec do the like —

That the Duties arising on all Goods sold at either of the above Places, be applied for supporting of the Trade there, in such manner as shall be directed by Acts of this Colony —

That the Colony of Quebec impose a Duty of [1] on all Rum or distilled Liquor sold at Carrilon, and a Duty of [1] per Cent on all dry Goods sold at Carrilon, Missilimackinack and any other Post where there is a Garrison

That the Colonies of Pennsylvania and New York pass a like Act

That the Duties arising on all Goods sold at either of the above places or ℘ ℘ such other Post where there is a Garrison be applied for supporting the Trade there, in such manner as shall be directed by the Colony of Quebec.

That the Colony of Pennsylvania [im]pose a Duty of [1] per Gallon on all [Rum] or other distilled Liquor sold at Pittsburgh [and a] Duty of [1] per Cent on all dry [Goods] sold at Pittsburgh, Illinois or any [other] Post where there is a Garrison [ ] Colonies of Quebec and New York pass a like Act

That the Duties [arising from] sold at either of the above places [ ] place or post where there is a [Garrison be] applied for supporting the Trade [in] such manner as shall be directed [by the] Colony of Pennsylvania —

That an Act be passed by [each of] the three mentioned Colonies to prohib[it Rum] or other distilled Liquor being carrie[d any] farther than Niagara, Pittsburgh an[d] (excepting a certain allowance to the [traders] and their Servants for their own use) [and these] Acts provide for one or more Commiss[ioners for] each of said Colonies, with whom all [such traders] shall enter their Goods, and give Secur[ity for] paying the Duties, that such comm[issioners or] Commissioner in the Colony of New York [shall] transmit all the Duties he receives [from] Traders going to Trade at any of [the posts] under the

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[1] Blank in the original.

(Ends:) And for so doing this shall be your warrant. Given at our court of St James's the 22d. day of May 1769 In the ninth year of our reign.

By His Majesty's
Command.

HILLSBOROUGH.

To our ATTORNEY and SOLICITOR GENERAL

Patent Rolls.

(The same grant is enrolled on the Patent Rolls. 9th George III under date of 8 June.)

A DRAFT OF A GRANT

D. S.[1]

May 22d, 1769

George the third by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c To all Men to whom these present Letters Patent shall come Greeting Whereas by a certain Grant or Deed Poll bearing date on or about the 27th day of December in the year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty, Brant alias Araghijvadeeka and divers others Native Indians calling themselves Sole and absolute Proprietors of Conajohare in the County of Albany and Province of New York in Consideration of the Love Goodwill and Regard which they had and bore towards their Affectionate Brother and Friend the Honourable Sir William Johnson alias Warraghüyagey of the Mohawks Country in the County of Albany and Province of New York aforesaid Baronet as well as in Justice and gratitude to him for the many welltimed Supplies and Credit he had formerly given to their people many of whom being Dead since and those living unable to make him a proper recompence any other way for and in the Name of their most Gracious Sovereign King George the Second Did Give Grant and Confirm and for ever Quit Claim unto the Said Sir William Johnson Baronet George S^t^. Cheap James Rogers Dennis Madden, John Johnson William Johnson Peter Fiax Michael Russell Wilhellmus Russell Paul Reiter Philip Hendrick Klyne, John Spangenburgh Lucas Veder, Lawrence Eman Michael Gallenger Matthias Link Hem Ury Creet George Ham George Ham Junior Peter Cooley John Johnson Peter Service Christopher Service Francis Rupert Adam Rupert Hannis Wert Anndreas Snyder Conradt Creitzburger Conradt Smith Jonathan French Jacob Pickle Hannis Wolf Barlet Augustus Eikler Jacob Sefer, Johannis Alt Bastain Steenmyer Stephen Hipp George Hipp Peter Frederick and their Associates All Inhabitants of the Mohawks Country his and their Heirs and Assigns for ever All that Tract or parcel of Land situate lying and being on the North side of the Mohawk River near to the Conajohare Castle and beginning at the North Westerly Corner of the Rear Line of a patent or Tract of Land purchased by the late Tiddy M^c^ Gin and others and lately Surveyed by his Widow Sarah M^c^ Gin which Corner or beginning is on the Bank of a Creek or Kill called by the Indians Dekayowaronwe and about thirteen Miles from the Mohawk River which Creek falls into the said Mohawk River about 200 yards below Fort Hendrick or Conajohara Castle thence running from the said North Westerley Corner of the said M^c^ Gins Rear Line North fifty Eight West to the West Bank of another Creek or Kill called by the Indians Deyoghtoraron by the Christian Canada Kill at Burnets Field from thence down along the west side of the said Creek or Kill to the Lands patented by the White people so down to the Mohawks River then round the several Tracts of Land already patented within the above mentioned two Creeks and taking in all the Vacant Land between the said two Creeks from the Rear Line quite to the Mohawk River as described on the Back of the said Deed by the Indians themselves to prevent any Disputes containing about Eighty thousand Acres with all the woods underwoods Trees Timber Feedings Pasture Meadows

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[1] In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.26. p. 31, London, England.

Marshes Swamps ponds pools Ways Passages Water Watercourses Rivers Rivulets Runs and Streams of Water also All the Mines Minerals or Ore of what kind soever standing growing being or to be found in or upon any part or parcel thereof and all other the Herẽdits and Appurtenances to the said Tract and parcel of Lands belonging or in any wise appertaining And the Reversion and Reversions Remainder and Remainders Rents Issues and Profits thereof and of every part and parcel thereof and All the Estate Right Title Interest Property Possession Claim and demand whatsoever of them and each and every of them either in Law or Equity of in and to the aforesaid Tract or parcel of Lands or any parcel thereof To Have and to Hold the said Tract or Parcel of Land and all and singular other the premises aforesaid with their and every of their Hereditaments and Appurtenances given granted and Released as aforesaid unto their Trusty and Welbeloved Friend the Honourable Sir William Johnson Baronet and Associates his and their Heirs and Assigns to and for his and their Sole Use and only proper use Benefit and Behoof for ever Absolutely without any manner of Condition Now Know Ye that We for and in Consideration of the Faithful Services rendered unto us by the said Sir William Johnson and of Our Grace and Favor and Meer Motion have given granted Ratified and Confirmed and by these presents Do for Us Our Heirs and Successors Give Grant ratify and Confirm unto the said Sir William Johnson and his said Associates his and their Heirs and Assigns for ever All that the said Tract and parcel of Land and all and singular other the premises Described or Comprized in the said recited Grant with their and every of their Rights Members and Appurtenances with all the Woods Underwoods Trees Timber Feedings Pastures Meadows Marshes Swamps Ponds Pools Ways Passages Waters Watercourses Rivers Rivulets Runs and Streams of Water Also all the Mines Minerals or Ore of what kind soever being or to be found in and upon any part or parcel thereof And all other the Hereditaments and Appurtenances to the said

Tract and parcel of Lands belonging or in any wise appertaining and the Reversion and Reversions Remainder and Remainders Rents Issues and profits thereof and of every part and parcel thereof And all the Estate Right Title Interest Property Possession Claim and Demand whatsoever of us Our Heirs and Successors of in and to the aforesaid Tract or parcel of Lands or any part thereof To Have Hold and Enjoy the said Tract and parcel of Land and all and singular other the premises aforesaid with their and every of their Appurtenances, unto the said Sir William Johnson and his said Associates his and their Heirs and Assigns To and for the only proper Use and behoof of him the said Sir William Johnson and his said Associates His and their Heirs and Assigns for ever Yielding and Paying therefore unto Us Our Heirs and Successors two Beavers Skins to be delivered at Our Castle of Windsor on the First day of January in every Year And Also the Fifth part of all Gold and Silver Ore which shall from time to time be found upon the said Tract or parcel of Land Clear of all Charges In Witness whereof We have Cause these Our Letters to be made patent Witness Ourself at Westminister the day of In the Ninth year of Our Reign And in the Year of Our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty nine.

INDORSED: Order in Council
3d May 1769.
Inclosing Dra^{t}. of a War^{t}.
to pass the Great Seal
for a Grant of Land, to
Sir William Johnson
& his Associates, on the
Mohawk River.

You will Doubtless before You receive this, have heard, of Pondiac's being Kill'd by the Pariorias who live at Cahakia.— what Effects it will have amongst the Indians, I cant Say, no very good [one] I believe as they already Seem discontented enough [a few] Nights before I left the Illinois, there [was a] Soldier and his Wife Scalpd, a little [way from] the Fort in their Bed. Supposed to be the Ouabach Indians, [and Since] my Departure Six Kaskaskias Indi[ans was] Scalped between the Fort and their [Village] by the Sacks & Reynards.— Shall [be] better able to informe you, when I [have] the pleasure of Seeing You.

My Compliments to your Fam[ily]

I am
sir
with the Utmost Re[spect]
Your
Most ob^{t} H[uml. Servt.]
EDW[ARD COLE]

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON
INDORSED: [New Orleans, June 13th 1769]
Com^{y} [Coles Letter]

EXTRACTS FROM LONDON LETTERS[1]

June 14, 1769

[ ] from B. F's Letter May 29 — 1769 [ ] Objections have been made by Lord [Hillsborou]gh to the Ratification of the late Indian [Treaty] and to Sir William's Conduct in it. One is, that [he has go]ne beyond his Instructions, in obtaining too [much] land of the Indians, it being intended at this Time [to pur]chase no farther than the great Canhaway. [ ] objection is founded on the Apprehension that [the pe]ople will soon seat themselves in the remote [ ] &

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[1] Apparently sent by George Croghan to Johnson, having been received from Samuel Wharton in London. "B. F." is plainly Benjamin Franklin, writing to Wharton.

be too far out of the reach of Government here [Ano]ther is, his permitting the private Grants to [ ] Merchants & M^r^. Croghan (& perhaps to M^r^ Penn) [ ] transacted at the same Treaty, and made Condi[tion] of it. It has for some time been doubtfull whether [the Tr]eaty would be ratified or not, & we have been [ende]avouring through every Channel we could use, [to] obviate these Objections, & Support the Treaty & [the] propriety of Sir William's Conduct of it. At [ ] we hear it is ratified conditionally if Sir [Willia]m cannot prevail with the Indians to alter [it in] those particulars. I make no doubt but he [will insis]t with a becoming Firmness on the Occasion [to rat]ify his own Measures with proper Spirit [ ]ble to his Character.—

June 14.—

This Letter having miss'd the Opportunity [ ] I intended to have sent it, I open it to add, [ ] am well inform'd, that L^{d}. H^{s}. Objections to the [ ] are entirely disapproved by the rest of the [councillors] as well as most of his American Conduct, [ ] wish to get rid of him.—

Extract from S. W.'s Letter, June 14, 1769

"[ ] to the forgoing, I learn from M^{r} Walpole [a member of] parliament & Brother to L^{d}. Walpole & a [acqu]aintance of L^{d}. Ch. .m's, that the Lord [Ch.n.l.r supped with] him *last Night* & told him, [that there was not one mem] ber in all the Cabinet Councill, [but what thought] L^{d}. H. . .h] mad in his Objections to the [ ]e of his Letters to Sir [ ] unanimous Opinion [ ] all its Parts if the Six Nations would not depart [ ] which were *fix'd* at Fort Stanwix. L^{d} [Hillsborough] sent away his *foolish* Letter (as the L^{d}. [ ] to Sir William before he had consulted the [ ] upon it;— But as soon as the C. .n. .C saw it [ ] their *Amazement* at it, and therefore, his Lor[dship was] obliged to write his subsequent Letter, which [ ] in the equivocal manner it is in order to save [ ]Honor; But the L^{d}: Ch. . .r Said, last Night, he [was such] a wrong Headed Body, he was a fraid Sir Will[iam] would not understand the true meaning & D[esign of] the Cabinet Councill. This Information you [may] literally & fully depend on, as M^{r}: M^{r}: Walpole [commu]nicated it *this Morning*, in the Strictest Conf[idence] to M^{r}. Franks & Myself."

FROM SAMUEL WHARTON

A. L. S.

London June 14, 1769

I have wrote you very fully lately. To Which I [beg] Leave to refer You and I now in the greatest Haste, [ ] my Pen to communicate the following important Intelli[gence to] you.

[I was] with M^{r}. Walpole just Now, Who is a member of Parliment [and] Brother to Lord Walpole and a most intimate acquaintance of [Lord C]h.t.m's and He communicated to Me in the greatest Confidence, [that] the Lord Ch..n..l.r[1] supped with Him *last Night* and [told] Him, That there was *not One Member* in all the Ca..b..t [ ]l; But what thought L^{d}. H...h *Mad*, In his [object]ions to the Boundary &^{c} —As mentioned in One of his [ ] to Sir W...m And Therefore it was *the unanimous Opinion* [ ] *Determination of* Them, To confirm it *in all its parts*, [ ] Six Nations would not depart from the Terms, which [they rati]fied at Fort Stanwix. [ ] had wrote and sent away his *foolish* Letter (as the L^{d} [Ch.n.l.r] called it) to sir William, Before He had consulted the [ ]C..n..l upon it;— But as soon as the Council [ ] They all expressed their Amazement at it and Therefore [his Lords]hip was obliged, by Order of the C..n..l to contradict [ ] expressed in the strange eq..v..l Manner it is, in order [ ]

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[1] Charles Pratt, first Earl of Camden, created Lord Chancellor in 1766.

Ingnorance and save *his Honor;*[1] But the L^{d} Ch..n..r [ ]
He was afraid S^{r} William would not understand the [true meaning] and Design of the Ca. .b. .t C. .n. .l.

[ ] absolutely rely On the above Intelligence and
[ ]r's Expression, no longer than Yesterday.—They
[ ] Oppertunity (so as not to weaken Themselves at this
[ ] are pressing Them so closely) "to get rid of
[ ]ted Creature."—

[ ] as I am afraid I shall be too late for [ ]
[ ] I must subscribe myself, as I sincerely [ ]

Sir
[ ] much obliged and faithfull Fr^{d}.
SAM^{L} WHARTON

[ ] has abandoned Corsica.

WARRANTS FROM THOMAS GAGE

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 427, are listed two warrants of June 14th from General Gage, with accounts annexed, authorizing payments to Johnson: one for £7277, 2s, 7d New York currency, the other for £1204, 13s, 10d.

TO JAMES DE LANCEY[2]

Df[3]

Johnson hall June 14th. 1769

Altho' from different Avocations our Correspondence [ ] been but little, Yet it may possibly be much enlarged and there may be occasions requiring it, which I shall always gladly embrace, That which produces this Letter I shall enter upon without farther ceremony persuaded that it will meet with a friendly reception — You know that the House of Assembly their way to [ ] & Intend paying their Respects to You [ ] accompanys them to the German Flats [ ] — those Gentlemen Travels verry [ ] no less than One of the first [ ] from York who goes up w[ ] with diffureent kinds of Stores [ ] I Sopose they are Introduced to you [ ] Several Gentlemen at York, it wou[ ] too formal in me to Introduce them to [you] as knowing that your House is open to all [ ] Gentlemen & nothing but Civility & hospita[lity] dwells there — I am Dear Sir with

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[1] *See* Hillsborough's letter of May 13, 1769, to Johnson, *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:938.

[2] A member of the assembly, elected by New York.

[3] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

Great Respect [ ]
most obedient
serva[nt]
DANIEL CAMP[BELL]

P S I Expect Some gun powder
from York in about Six
days its probible I may
have an Oppertunity to
Send it up so as to answer your purpose

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Baronet

INDORSED: [ ]
Major Camp[bell]

TO THOMAS GAGE

Df.[1]

Johnson hall June 24th. 1769

DEAR SIR

I have had the favor of your Letter of the 12th Inst since which I find that the Alarm at Detroit has for the present subsided, and that so far as it regarded that settlement it was (as some say) occasioned by the Inds. Claim on the property of the Inhabitants;

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[1] In American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.; in handwriting of Guy Johnson.

but altho' that might have been the case there, yet there are so many reports daily Circulating and some of them wearing an appearance of probability that they require particular attention & Enquiry. We must expect that they will be dissatisfied at Losing presents &ca, but we must endeavor to prevent the Consequences, & I have always found that a Jealousy amongst themselves is the best Security for us.— It is very probable that the great present to the 6 Nation Confederacy has been viewed with much envy by the rest but Whatever pretexts they may use when they have an Inclination to Quarrel they well know that that present was for a Valuable property to which the 6 Nations only had a Title.— To obtain as much information as I can, I purpose in 2 or 3 days to proceed for Onondaga taking with me a few of those Articles of which their Chiefs are most in need, and I shall probably by being on the Spot make some discoveries, as well as prevent them from coming down this Summer which they would otherwise Expect. You will therefore please during my Absence which will be about a Month to Signify your Commands to Guy Johnson who will Execute them, or Communicate anything necess^y^ for y^r^ Information This Moment I received Letters from Detroit by wch I am Informed that Coll Wilkins Writes That M^r^ D'Aubrie has ordered Mons^r^. S^t^ Ange to Send down all the Spanish Officers & soldiers & that Huron Andrew told M^r^ Hay that M^r^ Vercher formerly a french Officer who came to Trade at Detroit had given Two Belts with 2 Kegs of Rum to the Two Huron Villages desiring that they would keep up their Courage as they Should Soon see their Old french father that Vercher is now gone from Sandousky to Montreal without Calling at Detroit.— & Andrew says that his Cousin a Huron who speaks good french was the Interpreter.

[*I inclose you a Letter from the french Inhabitants of Detroit concerning M^r^. M^c^Dougals pretensions to Hog Island with their Memorial to me on the same Subject*[1]]

GEN^L^. GAGE

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[1] Crossed out in the original.

At a Council, held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 18th of July 1769.

Present,

The Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, President
Joseph Turner | Thomas Cadwalader } Esquires
Richard Peters | James Tilghman

Colonel Francis, having Yesterday come to Town from the Forks of Susquehanna, and brought the disagreeable News that on the Day of , an Indian Man, called young Seneca George, was unfortunately Shot, on the West side of Susquehanna, a few miles below Middle Creek, attended at the Board, by the desire of the President, and acquainted them, that he, with some other Persons, had apprehended one Peter Reed, as the Person suspected to have Shot the said Indian, and brought him before [illegible] Esquire, who after taking the Deposition of the said Colonel Francis, James Potter and William Patterson, committed the said Reed to Lancaster Goal till further Orders should be given by the Judges of the Supream Court. And Colonel Francis had related the several particulars respecting the Killing of the Indian as set forth in the Deposition, which was sent to the Judges of the Supream Court, the Board took the Matter into their serious Consideration, and were of Opinion that, a Present of Condolance should be immediately provided, and sent to Old Seneca George, and the other Relations of the Deceased Indian, accompanied with a condoling Message to them from the Government; and that a Letter should be sent by the next Post to Sir William Johnson to inform him of this unfortunate Accident, that he may acquaint the Indians with it in the most proper Manner.

Mr. Peters and Mr. Tilghman were appointed to confer with the Speaker of the Assembly, on the Occasion, in Order to know whether He, and other Members of the Assembly, who were in Town, would engage that the House should pay the Expences of the said Present, and such Charges as might attend the delivery of it.

At a Council, held at Philadelphia, on Wednesday 19th July, 1769.

Present,

The Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire President
Joseph Turner | Richard Peters } Esquires
William Logan | James Tilghman

Mr. Tilghman and Mr. Peters reported that, they had conferred with Mr. Fox, on the Subject recommended to them Yesterday, and that Mr.

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York
the fifth Day of July 1769.

Present

Excellency Sir Henry Moore Bar^t. Cap^t. Gen^l. &c.

M^r. Watts	M^r. Cruger
M^r. De Lancey	M^r. Wallace
M^r. Reade.	M^r. White.

mbly

The General Assembly standing Prorogued to Thursday the sixth Day of July Instant, His Excellency the Governor was pleased by and with the Advice of the Council farther to Prorogue them to Tuesday the fifth Day of September next, and a Proclamation was signed by his Excellency farther Proroguing the said General Assembly accordingly.

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York on Wednesday the twelfth day of July 1769.

Present.

His Excellency Sir Henry Moore Baronet Cap^t. Gen^l. &c.

M^r. Horsmanden	M^r. Cruger
M^r. Watts	M^r. Wallace
M^r. Morris	
M^r. Smith Jun^r.	M^r. White

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tments in the
ks.

His Excellency having desired the Opinion of the Board as to the Demand for the Quarters of those Officers, for whom it is represented there were no Apartments in the Barracks, it was referred to M^r. White and M^r. Wallace to confer thereupon with the Gentlemen who are Representatives in General Assembly for the City of New York; and his Excellency declared he would in the mean Time confer with General Gage on the same Subject.

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It being represented that the Name of John Smith Esquire who was one of the Justices of the County of Westchester by the former Commission, was left out of the Commission of the Peace lately issued: It is Ordered by his Excellency the Governor with the Advice of the Council that a Writ issue assigning the said John Smith Esquire one of the Justices of the Quorum for the said County.

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New York on Tuesday the Eighteenth day of July 1769.

Present

His Excellency Sir Henry Moore Baronet Cap^t. Gen^l. &c.

M^r. Watts	M^r. Wallace
M^r. Smith Jun^r.	
M^r. Cruger.	M^r. White

His

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Excellency communicated a Letter of the

Hillsborough his Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Excellency's Letter in which he desires Instructions upon what the Indians at the late Treaty, are to be granted, then lay before his Consideration; His Lordships trusts no Countenance or Attention either given to any Application for these Lands, either upon the Ground of private the Indians contrary to the Directions of the Proclamation of 1763 and not Orders from his Majesty; or upon Pretence of Orders from his Majesty in Coun were iſsued before those Lands were ceded, and can in no Light be considered as Poſseſsors of them a Right to locate their Grants upon Lands since acquired to the at a very large Expence.

otice relative to the
oceedings in Parlia-
ment respecting America
d the Measures in
ntended as to the Duties
Paper Glaſs and
olours &c.

His Excellency also communicated a Letter of the 13th of May last from the Honble the Earl of Hillsborough, inclosing his Majesty's Speech to his Parliament the Close of the late Seſsion; and observing that what his Majesty is pleased to sa Relation to the Measures which have been pursued in North America, will not cape his Excellency's Notice, as the Satisfaction his Majesty expreſses in the Appro tion his Parliament has given to them, and the Aſsurances of their firm Suppo in the Prosecution of them, together with his Royal Opinion of the great Advant that will probably accrue from the Concurrence of every Branch of the Legislatu in the Resolution of maintaining a due Execution of the Laws, cannot fail to pro the most salutary Effects: that from hence it will be understood that the whole Legisla concur in the Opinion adopted by his Majesty's Servants, that no Measures ought to taken which can any way derogate from the Legislative Authority of Great Britain the Colonies. But that his Lordship can take upon himself to aſsure his Excellency, notwithstanding Insinuations to the Contrary from Men with factious and Seditious Views. that his Majesty present Administration have at no Time entertained a Desig to propose to Parliament to lay any further Taxes upon America for the purpose of raising a Revenue; and that it is at present their Intention to propose in the next Seſsion Parliament to take off the Duties upon Glaſs, Paper: and Colours; upon Consideration of such Duties having been laid contrary to the true Principles of Commerce That these have always been and still are the Sentiments of his Majesty's present Servants, an the Principles by which their Conduct in respect to America has been Governed – An that his Majesty relies upon his (the Governor's) prudence and Fidelity, for such an Explanation of his Measures, as may tend to remove the Prejudices which have been excited by the Misrepresentations of those who are Enemies to the Peace and Prosperity of Great Britain and her Colonies, and to reestablish that mutual Confiden and Affection, upon which the Glory and safty of the British Empire depend –

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 11th June, 1769.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c.

Benjamin Chew, Thomas Cadwallader, Esquires.
Joseph Turner,

The Record of Conviction of Samuel Galloway, late of Kent County, Yeoman, was re-considered, and a Warrant of Respite directed to the Sheriff, was issued for suspending the Execution of the said Samuel Galloway to the 10th day of November next.

MEMORANDUM, July the 11th, 1769.

The Governor this day received the following Letter from the Honourable William Pitkin, Esquire, Governor of the Colony of Connecticut, Viz:

"HARTFORD, the 26th of June, 1769.

"Sir:

"I received Yours of the 13th of February last, and thought proper to communicate it to the General Assembly of this Colony, as is, and has been the Custom in this Government as to such Letters, before I returned an Answer. I improved the earliest Opportunity herefor, at their Session in May last, but no Resolutions relative to the Subject Matter of your Letter were come into by them. What has been resolved by this Colony in favour of the Susquehanna Purchasers, was in the Year 1755, which, I doubt not, you have long since been advised of. Whatever Correspondance has heretofore been carried on relative to the Subject, has proved ineffectual as to quieting the Minds of those Interested; and should the like Correspondance be renewed as to the Bounds of the Colony by our Royal Charter, and the Legality of the Purchase made of the Indians, it would probably be of little avail, Private Opinion being very undeterminate in Cases where Provision is made by Law for issuing them.

"I am truly solicitous that the Peace of your Province, as well as this, should be maintained, and flatter myself that Individuals challenging what they claim their Right, which must be determined in a legal manner, will not disturb the Peace of either, but hope such Measures will be come into, and the whole Affair so adjusted, as greatly to redound to the Emoluments of each of them.

"I am, with Esteem and Regard, Sir,
"Your most obedient humble Servant,
"Wm. PITKIN.

"To His Excellency JOHN PENN, Esquire."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 18th of July, 1769.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, President.

Joseph Turner,	Thomas Cadwalader,	Esquires.
Richard Peters,	James Tilghman,	

Colonel Francis having Yesterday come to Town from the Forks of Susquehanna, and brought the disagreeable News that on the ——— Day of ———, an Indian Man, called young Seneca George, was unfortunately Shot on the West side of Susquehanna, a few miles below Middle Creek, attended at the Board by the desire of the President, and acquainted them that He, with some other Persons, had apprehended one Peter Read as the Person suspected to have Shot the said Indian, and brought him before James Burd, Esquire, who, after taking the Deposition of the said Colonel Francis, James Parr, and William Patterson, committed the said Read to Lancaster Goal 'till further Orders should be given by the Judges of the Supream Court; And after Colonel Francis had related the several Particulars respecting the killing of the Indian, as set forth in the Deposition which was sent to the Judges of the Supreme Court, the Board took the matter into their Serious Consideration, and were of Opinion that a Present of Condolance should be immediately provided and sent to Old Seneca George, and the other Relations of the Deceased Indian, accompanied with a condoling Message to them from the Government; and that a Letter should be sent by the next Post to Sir William Johnson to inform him of this unfortunate Accident, that he may acquaint the Indians with it in the most proper manner.

Mr. Peters and Mr. Tilghman were appointed to confer with the Speaker of the Assembly on the Occasion, in order to know whether He and other Members of the Assembly who were in Town, would engage that the House should pay the Expences of the said Present, and such Charges as might attend the delivery of it.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Wednesday 19th July, 1769.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, President.

Joseph Turner,	Richard Peters,	Esquires,
William Logan,	James Tilghman,	

"Mr. Tilghman and Mr. Peters reported that they had conferred with Mr. Fox on the Subject recommended to them Yesterday, and that Mr. Fox acquainted them he had consulted several of the

Pennsylvania, 1769.

At a Council, held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 18th of July 1769.

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Joseph Turner Thomas Cadwallader } Esquires
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Mr. Tilghman and Mr. Peters reported that, they had conferred with Mr. Fox, on the Subject recommended to them Yesterday, and that

Mr. Fox acquainted them he had consulted several of the Members of Assembly respecting the Present proposed to be made by the Government to the Relations of Young Seneca George; and that they all much approved of the Measure, and made not the least Doubt but the Assembly would chearfully defray the Expence of such Presents as might be thought necessary to be made, as well as the Charges attending the Transportation and Delivery of them.

Whereupon it was agreed that, the following Goods should be sent to Fort Augusta, without Delay, and there delivered to the Indians by Colonel Francis, with a Message to be prepared by Mr. Logan and Mr. Peters; and the Secretary was desired to speak to Mr. Fox, and request he would Order the said Goods to be provided accordingly.

Here follows the List of the Goods. Vizt.

1 Piece of Black Strouds
1. Ditto of Black half Thicks (or Blue if Black cannot be got)
1. Ditto of Black Striped Duffils.
2. Ditto of Bandanoe Silk Handkerchiefs — dark Coloured
1 Dozen of Shirts, Vizt. 6 Ruffled and 6 Plain
2 Pieces of Gartering, Scarlet and Star
50 lb of Tobacco
6 Pair of Shoes, and 6 Pair of Buckles
15 Gallons of Rum in 3 Keggs
2 lb of Vermillion
1 dozen of small Brass Kettles
2 Barrels of Pork

It is also agreed that, Flour, and Indian Corn sufficient for the Indians that may come to Augusta, be provided by Colonel Francis, on the Frontiers, or at the Susquehanna

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At a Council, held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 22 of August, 1770.

Present,

The Honourable John Penn, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor &c.

The Honble. James Hamilton, William Logan,
Richard Peters, Lynford Lardner, } Esquires
Benjamin Chew, James Tilghman

A Company of Indians to the Number of 37, including Men, Women, and Children, came to Town on Friday, and this Day five of their principal Men waiting on the Governor they were invited into the Council and on their behalf

Shea-

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 11th June, 1769.

PRESENT:

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Benjamin Chew,	Thomas Cadwallader,	Esquires.
Joseph Turner,		

The Record of Conviction of Samuel Galloway, late of Kent County, Yeoman, was re-considered, and a Warrant of Respite directed to the Sheriff, was issued for suspending the Execution of the said Samuel Galloway to the 10th day of November next.

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MEMORANDUM, July the 11th, 1769.

The Governor this day received the following Letter from the Honourable William Pitkin, Esquire, Governor of the Colony of Connecticut, Viz^{t}:

"HARTFORD, the 26th of June, 1769.

"Sir:

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"I am truly solicitous that the Peace of your Province, as well as this, should be maintained, and flatter myself that Individuals challenging what they claim their Right, which must be determined in a legal manner, will not disturb the Peace of either, but hope such Measures will be come into, and the whole Affair so adjusted, as greatly to redound to the Emoluments of each of them.

"I am, with Esteem and Regard, Sir,

"Your most obedient humble Servant,

"W$^{M.}$ PITKIN.

"To His Excellency JOHN PENN, Esquire."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 18th of July, 1769.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, President.

Joseph Turner,
Richard Peters,
Thomas Cadwalader,
James Tilghman,
} Esquires.

Colonel Francis having Yesterday come to Town from the Forks of Susquehanna, and brought the disagreeable News that on the ——— Day of ———, an Indian Man, called young Seneca George, was unfortunately Shot on the West side of Susquehanna, a few miles below Middle Creek, attended at the Board by the desire of the President, and acquainted them that He, with some other Persons, had apprehended one Peter Read as the Person suspected to have Shot the said Indian, and brought him before James Burd, Esquire, who, after taking the Deposition of the said Colonel Francis, James Parr, and William Patterson, committed the said Read to Lancaster Goal 'till further Orders should be given by the Judges of the Supream Court; And after Colonel Francis had related the several Particulars respecting the killing of the Indian, as set forth in the Deposition which was sent to the Judges of the Supreme Court, the Board took the matter into their Serious Consideration, and were of Opinion that a Present of Condolance should be immediately provided and sent to Old Seneca George, and the other Relations of the Deceased Indian, accompanied with a condoling Message to them from the Government; and that a Letter should be sent by the next Post to Sir William Johnson to inform him of this unfortunate Accident, that he may acquaint the Indians with it in the most proper manner.

Mr. Peters and Mr. Tilghman were appointed to confer with the Speaker of the Assembly on the Occasion, in order to know whether He and other Members of the Assembly who were in Town, would engage that the House should pay the Expences of the said Present, and such Charges as might attend the delivery of it.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Wednesday 19th July, 1769.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, President.

Joseph Turner,
William Logan,
Richard Peters,
James Tilghman,
} Esquires,

" Mr. Tilghman and Mr. Peters reported that they had conferred with Mr. Fox on the Subject recommended to them Yesterday, and that Mr. Fox acquainted them he had consulted several of the

Members of Assembly respecting the Present proposed to be made by the Government to the Relations of Young Seneca George, and that they all much approved of the Measure, and made not the least Doubt but the Assembly would chearfully defray the Expence of such Presents as might be thought necessary to be made, as well as the Charges attending the Transportation and Delivery of them.

"Whereupon it was agreed that the following Goods should be sent to Fort Augusta without Delay, and there delivered to the Indians by Colonel Francis, with a Message to be prepared by Mr. Logan and Mr. Peters, and the Secretary was desired to speak to Mr. Fox and request he would Order the said Goods to be provided accordingly.

Here follows the List of the Goods, Viz$^{t.}$:

1 Piece of Black Strouds.
1 Ditto of Black half thicks (or Blue if Black cannot be got).
1 Ditto of Black Striped Duffills.
2 Ditto of Bandanoe Silk Handkerchiefs, dark Coloured.
1 Dozen of Shirts, Viz$^{t.}$ 6 Ruffled and 6 Plain,
2 Pieces of Gartering, Scarlet and Star.
50 lbs of Tobacco.
4 Pair of Shoes, and 4 pair of Buckles.
15 Gallons of Rum in 3 Keggs.
2 lbs of Vermillion.
1 dozen of Small Brass Kettles.
2 Barrels of Pork.

It is also agreed that Flour and Indian Corn sufficient for the Indians that may come to Augusta, be provided by Colonel Francis, on the Frontiers or at the Susquehanna.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 22d of August, 1770.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c$^{a.}$

The Hon$^{ble.}$	James Hamilton,	William Logan,	Esquires.
	Richard Peters,	Lynford Lardner,	
	Benjamin Chew,	James Tilghman,	

A Company of Indians to the Number of 37, including Men, Women, and Children, came to Town on Friday, and to-day five of their principal Men waiting on the Governor, they were invited into the Council, and on their behalf Shoanaszowa, a Seneca Indian, made the following Speech to the Governor:

"Brother:

"I am glad to have an Opportunity of seeing you; We are of your Brethren that live at Chenango, on the Susquehanna, and We

come down to see our Brother, to tell him that We have of late had a good deal of sickness, and are in great Distress. Our Brothers here have always been kind to Us, and We hope We shall now meet with the same kind Treatment We have always had from You.

A String of Wampum.

"Brother:

"You told us, at the great Treaty that was held last Fall, that You would keep the Road between us open and safe, and be good to us, and desired We would act in the same Manner. Our Disposition, we assure you, is not changed towards you, it is still the same as ever, and We hope You are likewise of the same good Temper towards Us. We find what you told Us then to be true, for We have come here without any Molestation. The way has not a Stick in it, but all is free and open, and our Journey has been safe.

"Brother:

"In former Times all this Country belonged to the Indians; now it is otherwise. You have a large Share of it, and I am glad to find You carry on a good Trade with Us, and We live together in Peace and Love. This is just as you promised it should be at the last Treaty.

A String.

"Brother:

"I hope you will now pay a particular Regard to what I am going to say. We are come here from a great way off, and are much fatigued. There are some of the six Nations where we live, and I am come at their Instance, as well as from the other Indians that are at Chenango, and I hope you will listen to me in their behalf.

"You see our Condition; We are very poor and ragged; We have not had a good Hunting Season; We have been very Sick, and are in Distress; Have pity on Us, and give us a little Cloathing; We are almost Naked."

A String.

Mr. Peters was desired to acquaint the Speaker of the House with this application, and ask him to provide what should be thought proper to be given on the Occasion.

Thursday, the 24th of August, 1769.

MEMORANDUM.

Mr. Fox having, at the Instance of the Governor, provided a present for the Indians, it was this Day delivered to them, and the Governor at the same Time spoke to them as follows:

Present of Condol[ence of] 50 £ value is ordered to be given and will be wa[iting at] Shamokin for him when he arrives Perhaps it m[ay not be] proper that this matter should be known as it may [ ] more Indians to accompany him than otherwise woud [ ] Increase of the Expence of entertaining them there. [ ] The person accused denys the fact and undertakes [ ] his being elsewhere on the night of the accident, [ ] unhappily circumstanced that there is none but [Indians] which will not be allowed (unless they have b[ ] which may therefore be more likely to disturb the [ ] as this is a matter of the utmost Consequence [ ] the Settlement of our New purchase I am a[ssured you will do] every thing in your power to quiet the [ ] by representing this matter to them [ ] villain and not of the Country; Tho [ ] Rescues succeed arrests and a[ ] know the accused to be guilty [rea]son to apprehend a bad [New England trespassers have been] indicted for forcible possession of our [territory] with their other Embarrassments has so alarmed [ ] the Great Col°. Dyre and M^r^ Elderkin have engaged [ ] their Interest with the company to abandon the settle[ment] and submit the dispute to y^e^ Crown.

[I ha]ve heard of some of your tenants coming down [to th]e Susquehanna in order to take up some of our Lands. [And] as such a matter may prove injurious to your [in]terest, I should with great pleasure use any means in my power which you will please to suggest, to discourage any such attempt, being well satisfyed that it is [a] very improper Consequence of a purchase negotiated [by] you with so much pains as you took about it.

I am
Sir
Y^r^ Most Obedient Servant
JAMES TILGHMAN

[As soon] as the Governor comes to Town he will write you [ ] appointing some Indians to see the line run from [the Susque]hanna to Kittaning which is the only place where [it is pro]bable our people may make encroachments yet [ ] for want of knowing the line

FROM THOMAS GAGE

A. L. S. [1]

New York July 23^d. 1769

DEAR SIR,

What you relate in your Favor of the 24th. Ultimo concerning Mons^r. Vercheres has been transmitted to General Carleton, and I hope he will do every thing in his Power to punish him for his Treachery which will give a Check to the Secret Intrigues of the Canadians to excite the Savages to Mischief.

In my Dispatches by the last Packet I have received Copys of Lord Hillsborough's Letters to M^r: Steuart and you and find by the Orders to M^r: Steuart, that he is to fix New Boundarys to the Province of Virginia, and that they are to terminate at the Confluence of the Kanhwa and Ohio Rivers. The King will not suffer any Grants or Cessions below the Kanahwa, and as that is the Case, the Sooner the Lands ceded by the Treaty of Fort Stanwix below the Kanahwa are restored to the Six Nations the better, that all Pretences for seizing those Lands may be removed. The Virginians supported their Claim partly by virtue of the Cession made at the Treaty, and therefore the greater Reason there is to rectify the Treaty in that respect.

The King was not pleased with that part of the Treaty at the Beginning, and very much disapproves of other Articles which except out of the Cession certain Grants of Land to private People. You will see that the King will not now confirm those Reservations and I think we may assure ourselves when Complaints get home, of the immense Tracts acquired by private Compacts with the Indians, some of which extend over the Property of many People and that these Tracts are also acquired in direct Opposition to the Regulations and Laws of Government, that the King will absolutely and totaly reject the Exceptions Mentioned in the Treaty. I think it is Necessary and a Mark of Friendship I owe you to give you this Information and to tell you likewise, that there is an Outcry here about those Grants by People whose Property is invaded, and it's said that Litigations are already beginning. There is also a Letter intercepted to the Southward which I believe went home two Months ago and again lately Making a Discovery of Designs to get Lands from the Cherokees, in order to except the Same out of the Cession to be made to the King, at the ensuing Treaty to be held, for Settling the Virginia Line. In the same Manner, Says the Letter, as was done at the Treaty of Fort Stanwix.

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[1] In Harvard College Library, Cambridge, Mass.

Considering every thing, I think the Sooner the Articles mentioned are expunged out of the Treaty, the better it will be; and the more publickly it is done, the Sooner all Conversation about them will drop, for Litigations will then cease, and People's Minds will be easy. And I should hope that the Indians might with very little Difficulty be brought to yield the Grants excepted in the Treaty, to the King, in Lieu of the Lands ceded below the Kanahwa, which Might be restored to them. This Exchange will make all quiet, and the Treaty will be finished finaly in the Manner the most agreeable to the King, and answer the first Intentions of Government.

You may perhaps find some Trouble, as it is Natural to believe, the Grantees concerned will hold Intrigues and Cabals with the Indians, in order to make them averse to this Alteration in the Treaty; but I hope for many Reasons, you will be able to effect it. His Majesty Seems inclined to make a proper Compensation to Such of the Grantees who have been real Sufferers by Indian Depredations, but will not do it as they have managed it for themselves.

I have had So much to write by the Packet which Sails very early tomorrow Morning, that I can only Say further I am with great truth & Regard,

Dear Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
THO^s^. GAGE

P: S:
I direct this to you instead
of M^r^. Guy Johnson, Judgeing from
the time you proposed to return
home, that you will be upon the Mohock
River before this can get there.
T: G:

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar^t^:

INDORSED: July 23^d^ 1769.

From General Gage.

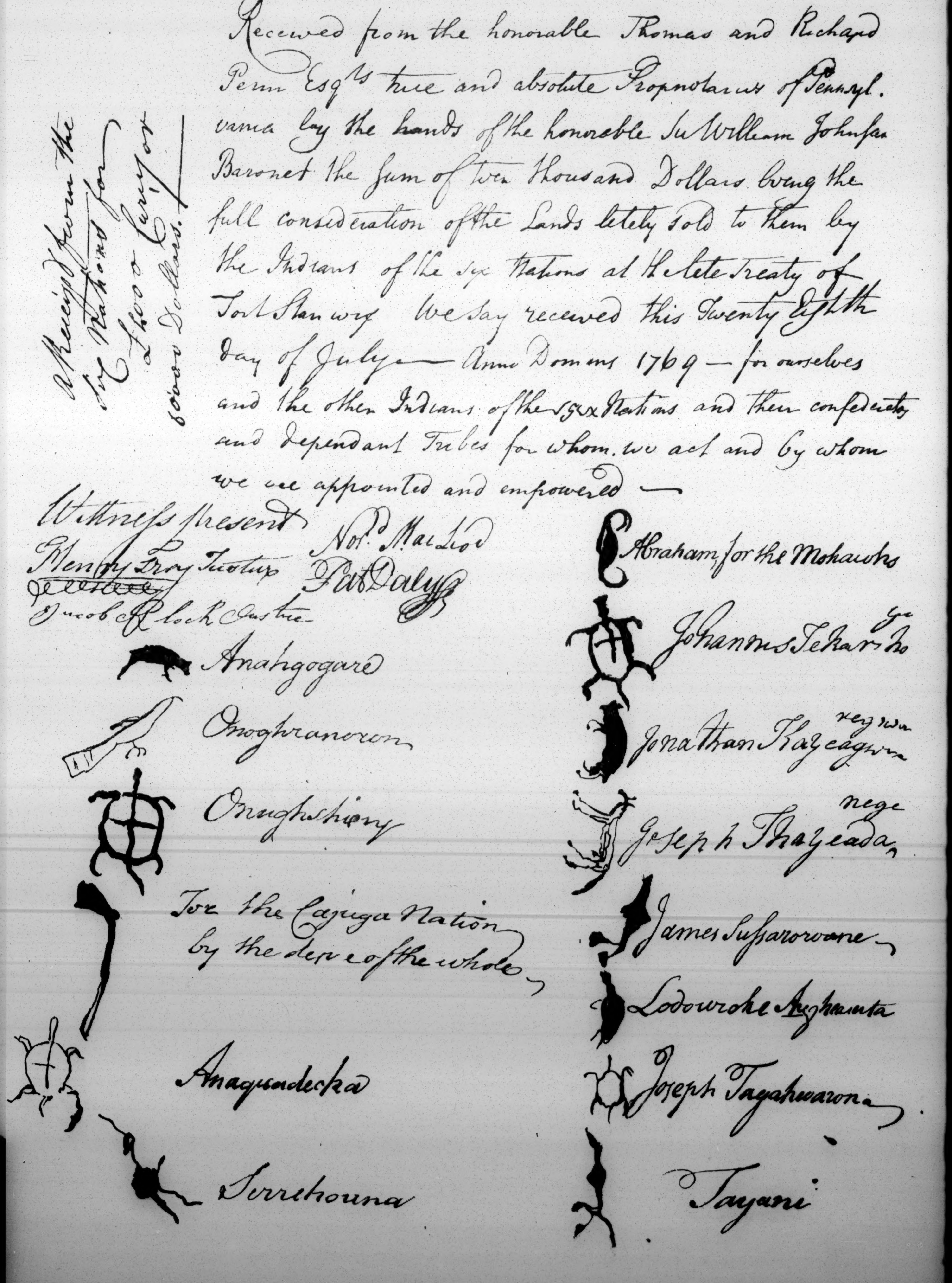
FROM JAMES RIVINGTON

A. L. S.

[N. Yor]k July 24, 1769

[ ] SIR

[ ]quet and two Ships from Lon[don] were very lately arrived here; [his Ex]cellency our Governor has commu[nica]ted to the Hon^ble^ Council the Contents [of a le]tter from Lord Hillsborough, intima[ting] the Intentions of Government to [repea]l the Revenue acts on the first mee[ting] of the next session of Parliament, [ ] it seems to be very unlikely that [any]thing more of this kind will happen; [ ] has too much weaned the affections of the [col]onies from the Mother Country. [Wilk]es and his Cause are decaying fast, [ ] said the bill of Rights asso-



Received from the honorable Thomas and Richard Penn Esq.rs true and absolute Proprietaries of Pennsyl. vania by the hands of the honorable Sir William Johnson Baronet the Sum of ten Thousand Dollars being the full consideration of the Lands lately sold to them by the Indians of the six Nations at the late Treaty of Fort Stanwix We say received this Twenty Eighth day of July — Anno Domini 1769 — for ourselves and the other Indians of the six Nations and their confederates and dependant Tribes for whom we act and by whom we are appointed and empowered —

A Receipt from the Six Nations for £4000 Curr'y or 8000 Dollars.

Witness present

Henry Frey Justus

~~[illegible]~~

Jacob Klock Justice

Nor.d MacLeod

Pat Daly

Anahgogare

Onoghranoron

Onughshiony

For the Cayuga Nation by the desire of the whole

Anaquadecka

Serrehouna

Abraham for the Mohawks

Johannes Tekarshoga

Jonathan Kayeagwrexgwa

Joseph Thayeadanege

James Sussarowane

Lodowicke Aughsaanta

Joseph Tayahwarona

Tayani

Received from the honorable Thomas and Richard Penn Esq^{rs} true and absolute Proprietors of Pennsylvania by the hands of the honorable Sir William Johnson, Baronet the Sum of ten thousand Dollars being the full consideration of the Lands lately sold to them by the Indians of the six Nations at the late Treaty of Fort Stanwix We Say received this Twenty Eighth day of July —— Anno Domini 1769 —— for ourselves and the other Indians of the six Nations and their confederate and dependant Tribes for whom we act and by whom we are appointed and empowered ——

Wittness present

Henry Fray Justice

Jacob J. Klock Justice

No$^{?d}$ MacLeod
Pat Daly

Anahgogare
Onoghranoron
Onughshiory

For the Cayuga Nation
by the desire of the whole

Anaquadecka
Serrehouna

Abraham, for the Mohawks
Johannes Tekarihoga
Jonathan Kayeagwenregswa
Joseph Thayeadanege
James Sussaroroane
Lodowicke Augheaserta
Joseph Tayahwarona
Tayani

a Receipt from the Six Nations for
£ [illegible] Currency = [illegible] Dollars

Received from the honorable Thomas and Richard Penn Esqrs true and absolute Proprietaries of Pensylvania by the hands of the honorable Sir William Johnson Baronet – the sum of ten thousand Dollars being the full consideration of the Lands lately sold to them by the Indians of the Six Nations at the late Treaty of Fort Stanwix We say received this Twenty Eighth Day of July — Anno Domini 1769 for ourselves and the other Indians of the Six Nations and their Confederacy and Dependant Tribes for whom we act and by whom we are appointed and empowered ——

Witness Present
Norᵈ MacLeod
Henry Hay Interpreter Pat. Daly
Jacob [illegible] Justice

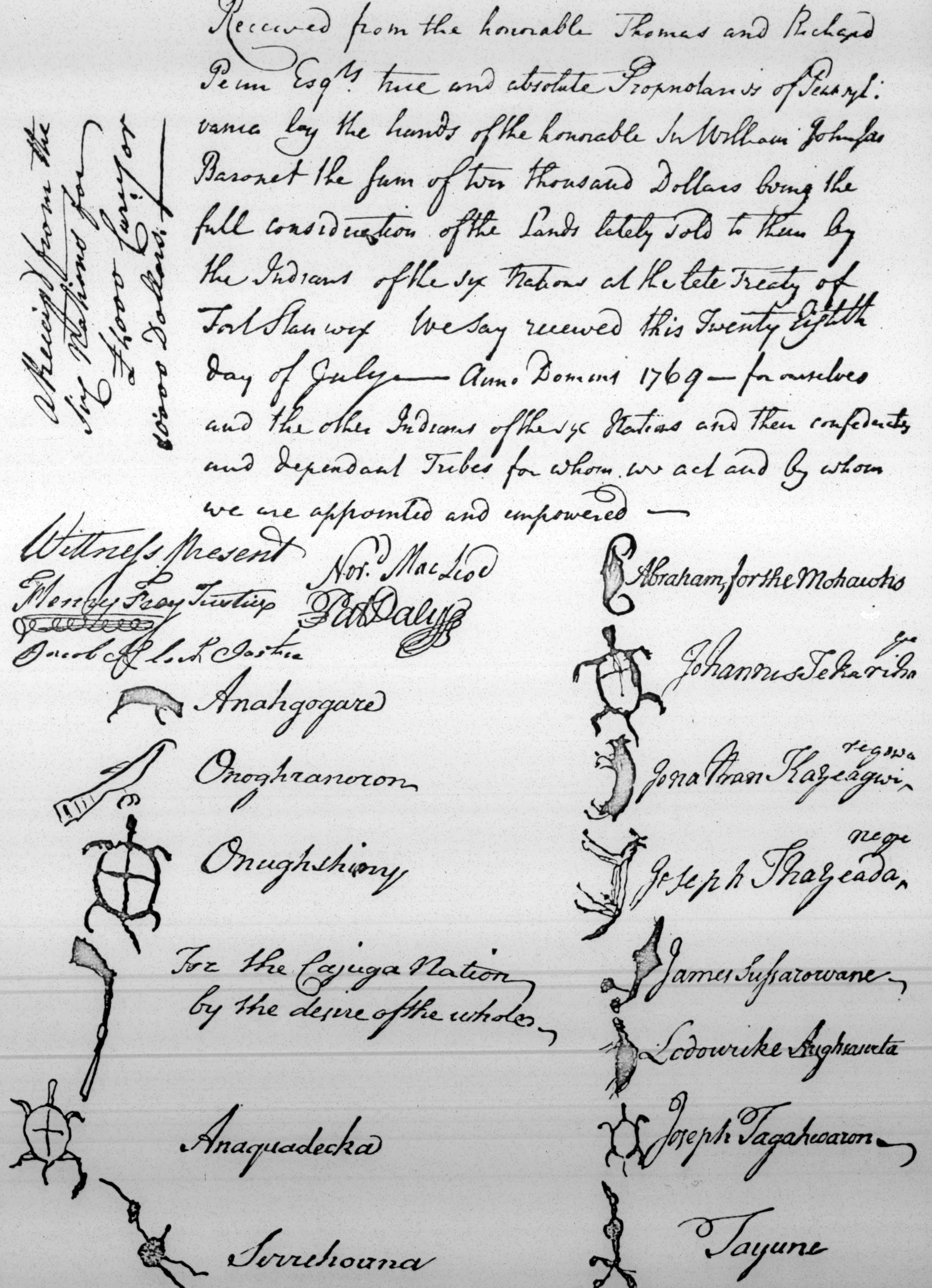
Abraham for the Mohawks
Johannes Tekhawko
Nevega

Anatsgogare
Onoghrasronon
Conaghquiesa

Jonathan Kayenarie
Joseph Tuscarorane
James Tayyearia

For the Cayuga Nations by the Desire of the whole

Ludovicke Tughsearota
Anayuadocka
Joseph Tayshsearon
Serehowana
Tayemi



A Receipt from the
Six Nations for
£4000 Curry or
10000 Dollars.

Received from the honorable Thomas and Richard Penn Esq^rs true and absolute Proprietaries of Pennsylvania by the hands of the honorable Sir William Johnson Baronet the ſum of ten thousand Dollars being the full consideration of the Lands lately sold to them by the Indians of the six Nations at the late Treaty of Fort Stanwix We say received this Twenty Eighth day of July — Anno Domini 1769 — for ourselves and the other Indians of the six Nations and their confederates and dependant Tribes for whom we act and by whom we are appointed and empowered —

Wittness Present
Henry Fray Testis
Jacob Klock Justice
Nor^d MacLeod
Pat Daly

Anahgogare

Onoghranoron

Onughshiony

For the Cajuga Nation
by the desire of the whole —

Anaquadecka

Serrehoana

Abraham, for the Mohawks

Johannes Tekarihoga

Jonathan Kayeagwiregwa

Joseph Thayeadanege

James Sussarowane —

Lodowike Aughsaerta

Joseph Tagahewaron —

Tayune

Anastatic Fac-simile.

Philada.

Copy of the Minute of Council upon Col. Stephen's Letter of the 29th. of July

His Excellency the Governor communicated to the Council a letter from Col. Adam Stephen dated 29th. of July informing of the hostile behaviour of some Indians about Fort Pitt, and of several Settlers beyond the Allegany mountains having thereupon left their habitations &c. Whereupon the Council expreſsed their surprize that the Indians should so soon discover an hostile disposition after the solemn treaty lately confirmed at Fort Stanwix with Sir William Johnson his Majesty's Superintendant for Indian Affairs in the Northern District: they cannot however help observing that Col. Stephen's information was merely from report, unsupported by any affidavit, and they incline to think that the mischief done to the cattle and Horses, if any, was committed by some of the Young Indians, who in their first Sallies out to War are not always to be kept within bounds. They therefore advise his Excellency to give strict charge, agreeably to the conduct his Majesty and his ministers have directed should be observ'd towards those people, that no injury or violence be offer'd to the Indians; and if hereafter it should become a serious buſineſs, proper measures may be taken for the defence of the Inhabitants, who should be cautioned that if they wantonly draw on a quarrel with the Indians, they will not be supported by Government. The Council likewise observe that tho' his Excellency's attention ought to be extended to the remotest parts of his Government, yet those people who have settled beyond the Allegany mountains, not only without any legal Authority but in opposition to all Authority, depending entirely on the friendship and good humour of the Indians, having very little reason to expect protection as they have already had notice by Proclamation they should have none.

Council Chamber August 8th. N. Walthoe Cl. Con.

Another Minute of Council upon the same day.

His Excellency was pleas'd to communicate Contents of a Letter from the Earl of Hillsborough signifying his Majesty's directions to Mr Stuart in respect to an alteration of the Boundary Line with the Cherokees. Upon which the Council advis'd his Excellency to have a new Assembly summoned, that the Writs for electing the Burgesses bear teste the 11th of this month, and that a Proclamation may issue the 1st Week in September for calling them together upon the 7th of November.

keggs of rum, for such Drunkeness I never [saw in] all my life, and I have had allmost the [whole Six] Nations in lately, I wish it was all over [and] their dollars were once out, while they have [the tr]aders will let them have rum, at any risk [I am] Oblidge to let Indians have a good deal of provisi[on, more] than they used to get at this post, and I am affraid the General will Blame me for it, I have [given] them some presents besides, however if I gett [out of t]he Country with my Scalp on I am Satifyed [ ] report of the Traders here saying that you [ ]ter Dollars to the Indians there has been no such [ ] by any body here, the Traders know very [well to] the Contrary they have all made fortunes here [ ] intirely owing to the Number of Dollars [ ] the five Nations this Summer, they are much [ ] the Commanding Officer this year [ ] asked the Traders here if they were not [ ] I fancy owing intirely to their getting [ ] Dollars are here now as plenty as [Wemple tells] me his Iron & Steel is allmost [ ] and we have had more Indians this [ ] three last years past put [together.]

your [ ]
& most [ ]
ALL[AN GRANT]

P: S:
I wish much that the general would either repair or Abandon this post, I would much rather defend a good House than it with my present garrison Wemple has had his own trouble and has done so much new work for the Onondagoes this year that I think they must carry on a trade with some Distant Indians in black Smith work

ADDRESSED: His Majestys Service
Sir William Johnson Bart. Supper Intendent of the Northern District of North America
at
Johnson Hall

INDORSED: Ontario August 8th. 1769
L^{t}. Grants letter

TO THOMAS GAGE

Df.[1]

[*Johnson Hall Aug 9, 1769*]

[Two] days ago I arrived here from Seneca, in no [occ]asioned by a Wound I received in my Leg, returning [from a visit] to an Indian Chief My Canoe oversat, & in getting [bac]k it being in the Night I fell upon a Stake, & have [my] Leg so much that I fear I must deferr many [parti]culars till the next Opportunity as I have not been [able] as yet to Look over my papers.—Nevertheless I cannot [ ] Sending you my best thanks for the friendly information [you] gave me in your Letter of the 23^{d}. ult^{o} on which M^{r} Johnson [wro]te you a few Lines and if my Esteem for you could admit any addition it must encrease it. At the same time I am [happ]y that it is in My power to Clear up these matters, & if [occas]ion requires to remove the Mistake or Misinformation of [Gove]rnment which I shall here mention as briefly as possible

The boundary being Judged a Very necessary Measure & [orders] received to Settle it, I thought, & so did every body [that] the Cession should be as Extensive as possible, & I believe [it is a]lmost Needless to say that the more we got Voluntarily [from them] the Less danger there would be of disputes about [settlemen]ts, & the farther they would be removed, The back [settlements] particularly of Virginia, I well knew were not [preven]ted from extending their settlements into the Indian [country had] the Treaty never taken place, the dangers in [which such] procedure must Involve the frontiers, could only [be by] purchase of that Country, but this was [ ] claimed in Virtue of an Old purchase[1] under [ ] and the only Objection his Majesty [ ] were founded on a Supposition that it [ ] timely Answer from [ ] Crown here must in many [ ] perhaps not Strictly consistent with orders, as [ ] for so doing, and as I found that in [truth (?) the Indians] made a point of it before I opened the [Congress] and I am certain I could not refuse ad[ ] Treaty, or do otherwise than I did without [ ] sound policy and the true Interests of Govern[ment. This is] briefly and truly the State of that matter.

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[1] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

As to the Grants [ ] two Mentioned in the Cession or Treaty, fo[ ] for their dwelling places and the Clause in[ ] before purchased under the sanction & then not p[ ] surely be objected to, at least I had no right to [ ] Grants are to Mr. Croghan & the Traders [As for Croghan's] it was but a Confirmation of an old Deed [ ] always understood was well known to som[ ] That to the Traders the Government was [acquainted] with & approved of, It was an Express A[rticle] of peace after the late Indian War, & [ ] far Short of what the Traders expected [His Majesty] can do therein according to his Royal [pleasure and will lose] nothing by it, as the Quit rents will [ ] is Granted. If any

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[1] Consult letter from Johnson to Lord Hillsborough, *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:940–42; Q, 2:544–46 and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 8:172–74, also same to same, *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:943–48; Q, 2:546–49 and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 8:179–82.

objection h[as been made to the] Expression[1] I cannot help it, It has [ ] softened where they Express their [ ] admitted, & must know [ ] they are made to Express [ ]
[ ]
[ ] I know my Conduct therein to be [ ] That what I did at that Treaty was [intended] not only for the best, but actually was the best that co^{d}. have been done [ ] and where I took such Extraordinary pains both [Night] & Day for effecting so difficult & Important a buisness, [I ca]nnot but think it hard should the Government omit doing [ju]stice to my proceedings, of the propriety of which I think myself a Competent Judge, and that I could convince the Crown that I could not have done otherwise consistent with its Interest, [and] publick Safety. There is one Grant which a Gentleman that attended at the Treaty Sollicitted & agreed with the Indians about, for another, without my participation & with wch I had no Concern whatsoever, neither [hav]e I any with the parties, I know that it comprehended part [of] a Patent which It is pretty well known the patentees have [no] Just right to, The Person for whom it was obtained attended [Sir] H Moore on his Last Visit here & then obtained his Sanction [of] the Deed & for reasons that will [occur] to you I Scorned to oppose it, especially as I knew it was [no] part of my duty the Indians having a right previous to the [treat]y to dispose of their Claims as they inclined. The [justice] which I am fully persuaded you will do to my [ ]ns & Conduct in these matters renders it unnecessary [that I a]dd more than that I sho^{d}. Imediately employ my [ ] induce the Indians to Except out of the Cession [the lands sou]th of Kanhawa, but for the following reasons, First that the Sec^{y} of [ ] Letter Says that the King will Confirm it as [at Fort] Stanwix if I shall be of opinion that insisting [ ] tion

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[1] The mode of expression employed by Indians in public conferences is here signified.

will have the effect to Excite Jealousy [ ] which I already gave [ ] Necessary for such a Transaction [ ] These Matters I referr to your [ ] Communication of your kind sentiments upon [ ] in the Letter herewith inclosed to give you [ ] late proceedings and remain with Cordial [ ]

Dr Sir
&ca

TO THOMAS GAGE

Df.[1]

[*Johnson Hall, Aug. 9, 1769*]

[In my] Letter of this date I answered as briefly as [I could the matter] contained in your kind favor of the 23d. ulto. [I will] now as Briefly describe my proceedings on the tour [of the Sen]eca Country from whence I am just returned, only Just [ ] the Heads as taken from my Journal, which is not yet [complete]d.

After many delays on the Road & Rivers & Conferences with [the] Conajoharees & Oneidas I arrived at Onondaga the 10th. July where were assembled the Whole of that Nation with sevl. others, [to] whom I gave some Indian Corn, of which they were in the greatest [wa]nt with Ammunition & a few other Necessarys which they most Wanted, This done, They addressed me in a Speech, desiring to be informed of the News Stirring & whether the informations they had received were well founded, which were, That the Catawbas continued obstinately bent on War that a War would [soo]n Commence between England and France, That they were [no] more to be attended to by the former, as they had hitherto been, that the people of New England intended to come into the [coun]try they had Sold & dispossess the Proprietaries of Pennsylva [of the]ir purchase That some had actually built Strong houses there & were fighting about it, & might probably involve some Ind^{s} in the Quarrel All which they said had created much [une]asiness amongst them, that it was unexpected, & therefore [alar]med them more than it otherwise would have done [ ] they were far from inclining to act the part that other [Indians] had in View, & therefore requested in a particular manner [that we w]ould not Suffer any Intruders to come in the Way [ ] people within the Limits of their late sale, [ ] nor Withdraw those people who had the Care [of the trade] as a revival of all those frauds they had [suffered from (?)] would certainly be the Consequence of their removal [ ]

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[1] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

[Upon] all these heads & many others I endeavored [to give them what assu]rances I could [ ] and having rec^{d}. from Ontario 5 Bar^{ls} of [ ] At Cayuga there were As[sembled about 500 Ind^{s}. who] repeated to me what I had heard [with] additions & with much more Ea[rnestness. I observed] that the farther I advanced into the [Indian country] the more Interested they appeared, and the [more difficult (?)] to please,—I made a Shorter Stay at Cay[uga than at] Onondaga, having before Sent Messengers to [summon] the Chiefs of the Seneca Villages from Ohio to Canada [to meet] me at the North end of the Seneca Lake for [ ] where I arrived the 18th. July & found abo[ut 2000 Ind^{s}.] already Assembled Exclusive of those Chiefs that accom[panied them] After Condoling with [ ] of some Losses, & Conferring the Dignity of Chief [upon a] Young Lad who was brought to me in great form [ ] as the Successor of their Chief lately deceased, [a chief from] the Village of Canadesega with another Indian [chief whom] I have had great reason to credit for many Years [visited] Me, and ams^{t}. other things said that they had taken much pains [in the] past to prevent their people, from giving ear [ ] Circulating amongst their Neighbours, will have the effect to Excite Jealousy [ ] which I already gave [ ] Necessary for such a Transaction [ ] These Matters I referr to your [ ] Communication of your kind sentiments upon [ ] in the Letter herewith inclosed to give you [ ] late proceedings and remain with Cordial [ ]

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After Sev^l^. days spent in endeavoring to make my Journey as usefu[l] by my proceed^s^. with the Senecas, & taking some meas[ures to obtain] a knowledge of the buisness to be transacted at the [Congress that] will be held Soon at Onondaga; I took my Leave of them [ ] Was overtaken by a party who were sent to inform me [of the murder] of Seneca George's Son, & the great concern of the Ind^s^. [ ] which I rec^d^. a pacquet from Col Johnson giving [me an] Accot of the Affair which I find he has transmitted [ ] I will not take up your time farther at present [ ] this tedious Narrative, but Sincerely wishing that [ ] in my Conjectures concerning the disposition that [obtains] amongst the Ind^{s}. & requesting to be favored with an [ ] desired I should lay before you

I remain
D^{r}. Sir [ ]

TO HENRY MOORE

Df.[1]

[*Johnson Hall, Aug. 10, 1769*]

[ ]
[ ] I wrote you on the 8th. & 26th of June [ ] I have not had the honor of hearing from you, [The su]bject of the last was concerning a petition intended [to be] Laid before the House from the principal Inhabitants of the Mohock River &ca relating to the division of this County, The former after Mention Made of the Interpreters, & Smiths, reminded you of your Intentions to Send a Commiss^{n}. to Col Johnson for his post of Adjutant General for which I thought him Well Qualified. I also Observed that part of the Militia Officers had taken the Oaths & received their Commiss^{ns}. As the remainder shall do as quick as possible. Permit me to request the favor of your Answer on these Subjects When Your Leisure will permit And be assured that I am With perfect Esteem,

Sir,
&ca

TO HENRY MOORE

Df.[1]

[*Johnson Hall, Aug. 10, 1769*]

[ ] arrived here three days ago from Seneca [and notwithsta]nding the Sev^{l}. Pacquets I am now making up

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[1] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

[and being ve]ry unfit for Sitting occasiond by a Severe Cut [in my] Leg which I got by a fall near Onondaga [I] could not omit informing you of my return & that I am Sorry to observe The too general dissatisfaction Expressed by the Indians at the recall of the Commissarys &ca without having others to Inspect the Trade to relieve them. Altho' at the Congress at Seneca at which above 2000 Indians attended they Mentioned Many other Causes of discontent, Expressed themselves very Warmly on Accot of the Intrusions of the New Englanders into Pennsylvania, which they fear will lead their borderers into a Quarrel, and Spoke much of the obstinacy of the Catawbas who are at Variance with the Cherokees with whom they the 6 Nations have made peace, Yet the former is more particularly Necessary for Your Information as it regards the Conduct of this Province, [ ] I took infinite pains to satisfy them on all these points, and gave them all the Assurances I could take upon me to make that the Province and all others concerned would make such provisions as [ ] Necessary for the Inspection of Trade & for Interpreters & Smiths, so soon as possible, I likewise spoke to De Couagne, who [has] been Interpreter at Niagara ever since the reduction of [that place] with regard to his continuance there for some time [ ] but he rejected any proportion that could be allowed [from] the £150 Resolved by the House for the Maintenance [of an Interpre]ter and two Smiths for Niagara & Detroit, & here [ ] to repeat that an Interpreter is necessary for [ ] That hitherto Detroit alone has had two, [one for the Huro]n the other for the Ottawa Language as [ ] to find any One Man sufficiently Versed in both [

] Trade, which ought by no means

[ ]

The situation in which I have des[cribed myself does not] permit me at this time to give a detail of my Transaction[s

] or to represent all that they have said on th[ ] Subjects, but if the observations & discoveries [which I have] Made, Joined to the experience I may

Fred. County July 29th 1769

My Lord

We have this moment received the disagreeable advice, that about three hundred Indians, having loiter'd about Fort Pit for some time, behaved in so hostile like a manner, that several of the Settlers beyond the Allegany Mountains, have left their habitations & crops, and are come in with their families.

The Savages pretended to be going to War against the Cherokees, received a good deal of Provisions of the Commander of the Kings Troops at Fort Pit, and afterwards went to the Bullock Guard, and drove off many of the Cattle belonging to the Garrison.

I understand there are about fifty men in Garrison at Fort Pit.

We have heard likewise of some disturbances on Green brier.

The rest of the Settlers beyond the Mountains have aſsembled together to wait the Event.

They could raise 500 men but are very scarce of Provisions, which will prevent their making a stand; should the Indians commit more hostilities. I have the honour to be with the most profound Respect

My Lord

your Lordships most Obdt. humble

Servt.

Adam Stephen.

Copy of Col: Stephen's
Letter Dated July 29th
Rec:d Aug: 5th

(1)

In Lord Botetourts (No 16)
of 9th Aug 1769.

Duplicate

London 10th. August 1769

Sir,

Upon my Representing and Stating the Losses and expences attending my Late Appointments in America to the Ministry Lord Hillsborough has been pleased to give me the Inclosed Letter —

I have talkd with His Lordship and Mr. Pownall on the Subject who are of Opinion that the Nova Scotia District is or Ought to be under your Managment, Vizt. in a Degree — to make use of His Lordships expression that According to the New Regulations of the Indian Department the Deputys are Comparitively in the Light of Embassadors, and as I am told the Governor of Nova Scotia has some allowance made for presents and Other Extray. &c to the Indians of that Province I would propose that Mr. Crosby Act as my Deputy only in Making such Reports and Returns to you Conformable to the Instructions you heretofore give me. that till the 23d. September next the Deputy Agent. Surgeon. Armourer. Interpretor. &c be paid. And after that time Only the Deputy Agent. and an Interpretor. as p the Inclosed Accounts. or in any Other Manner you may please to Direct —

The expences attending two Voyages to England and thro' the Continent with Other Losses Sustaind has Reduced me to the Necessity of Disposing of most of my property in Nova Scotia and Without some assistance of this kind will emerge me into further — Difficultys. I hope a Recompence by a Provision of this Nature may not Interfer with your Regulations or in the Least Infringe on your particular Department.

I have the promise of the first Majority Vacant whi on Obtaining propose to exchange with One of the Regiments serv:ing in North America which may give me an Opportunity perhap of Acting. But my Continuance on your Branch. being understood merely as a Recompence from Government for the Losses I have Sus:taind (permitted to Act by Deputy) I hope you will Approve of Mr. Crosbys Making out and Signing the half Yearly Account as Such after the 23d. September Next.

I hope to be favord with a Letter from you on this Subject if Directed to the care of Major Moncriffe or Shiriff it will be Duly forwarded.

I am Sir,

Your Most Obedient and
Most humble Servant.
Jos. Gorham

P.S. I shall Draw a Conditional
Bill on you for the six Months
Ending the 23d September Next.

Sir William Johnson Bart.

London 10th August 1769

Major Gorhams letter
with Accts

TO THOMAS GAGE

Df.[1]

[Johnson Hall, August 17, 1769]

[ ]
[ ] your Letter of the 6th inst with the in[closure[2]] [which] evidently correspond with what I have heard from other Quarters, but I don't find the Answer of the Indians amongst L^t^ Col Wilkins's papers, and therefore I Suppose you did not receive it for which reason I now send you one in French which I have received from Detroit, and which I think is expressed in Terms that Leave us no doubt of the Evil Inclination of those Indians.— It is extremely hard to say what should be done in these Cases, for I have observed that Threats to them generally make matters worse, and that there is no Middle way but either to Let them alone, or to send a proper force against them, but if (as some of them talk) a Quarrel should arise amongst themselves I think it should be encouraged I purpose to govern myself in this matter in the best way I can, and hope to have some influence over their Councils at the General Treaty to be held at Onondaga.—

As the Hurt which I mentioned in my [last] to have received in my Leg still Confines me to my [room and] in general to such a posture that Writing is [very in]convenient to me, I know you will kindly [ ] I am not yet able to be more particular [ ] a few days to be Able to give more Attention to [ ] Matters.—

Mr. [ ]
& other Accots coming in I can[ ] for the service of this Year, and it sho[ ] that from the Variety of Transactions [ ] the bringing about the reform

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[1] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

[2] Lieutenant Colonel Wilkins' speech to the Wabash Indians, not found. The answer follows the letter of August 26th from Johnson to the Earl of Hillsborough.

which co[uld not take] place at all the posts at the same[1] these E[xpences have] Increased which I hope you will direct me [in the] settlement of. I did not Send y^e^. above [ ]

INDORSED: [ ]

Gage

TO JOHN PENN

Df.[2]

[*Johnson Hall, August 17, 1769*]

[ ]

[On] My Way from Seneca I was overtaken by [ ] Indians, who were Sent to inform me of the murder [of Seneca] George's Son on the Susquehanna, and to Express the concern it had occasioned, imediately after which I received a pacquet from Col. Johnson with M^r^ Tilghman's Letter concerning it. I then sent back the Message I thought best calculated for appeasing them & preventing Mischief and I shall do all in my power that may be farther necessary for this purpose, as I fear it will not be easily or soon forgotten, and as the disposition I have discovered in the different Nations whom I have lately seen appears very unfavorable at this time.—

Since my Arrival here I had the favor of your Letter of the 2^d^. Inst concerning your Intention for running [the] Boundary Line and Shall Signify it to the Indians accordingly that some of them shall attend at that time [and do] all in my power for preventing the attendance of too many

In My Opinion the Whole Line of the late purchase [should be] run & Well Marked as Soon as possible particularly [from] Owegy to Delaware, as it will prevent Contention [ ] the Longer it is deferred the greater will be [effect it.] I have the pleasure to acquaint you [dis]satisfied wanted. They might if they chose it have discovered to you the Cause of the Discontent of the Western or Ohio Indians, which it seems proceeds from the Cessions made by the Six Nations, of Lands to which they lay some Claim, and the Six Nations have received all the Money. As you don't Mention this, I suppose they chose to conceal this Circumstance and mean to leave us to Squabble it out with the other Nations as well as we can. I have had Several Passages on this Subject, but none so full as a Copy of a Letter from Colonel Armstrong inclosed to me by Governor Penn. I transmit you a Copy of the Governor's Letter to me, as well as a Copy of Colonel Armstrong's[1] to the Governor's Secretary.

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[1] The word, "time" evidently omitted.

[2] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

It appears very Necessary that Something should be done to keep those Indians quiet, and which it behoves the Six Nations to do till Something solid can be fixed upon with them. The unions and Confederacys you Mention portend no good to us, and Seems to be the Consequence of the Peace we have taken So much Pains to bring about between the Northern and Southern Indians. I can't learn that the Ilinois have killed any Indian except Pondiack. Silver Heels will be able to clear up all those Reports.

As to the Question you desire me to answer all I can Say to it is, that the Interpreters and Smiths will be at the Posts, and the Indians must transact their Business with the Officers Commanding till the Provinces appoint Commissarys, or that Government shall think proper to adopt other Regulations.

I am with great Regard,
Dear Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
THO^{s}. GAGE

S^{r}: W^{m}: JOHNSON Bar^{t}:

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[1] John Armstrong, of Carlisle, Pa.; later, a general of the Revolution, who commanded militia at Brandywine and Germantown.

INDORSED: August 20th. 1769

General Gages letter

TO THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 431, is listed a letter of August 20th to the Earl of Hillsborough, regarding an inclosed account of a journey and proceedings, the Fort Stanwix treaty, reasons which compelled Johnson to fix the boundary at the Cherokee river, the grant to Mr Croghan and to the traders who suffered losses in the war of 1763, the Indian sentiment of independence, pretensions to a knowledge of the Indians, and reasons why he has hesitated to decline a part of the Indian cession. (Printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:943–48; Q, 2:546–49 and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 8:179–82.)

A MEETING WITH AUGHQUISASNES

Contemporary Copy

[*Sault St. Louis alias Caghnawagey, Aug. 21, 1769*]

At a Meeting of the Sachems & other principal Men of [the Augh] quisasne or St. Regis Indians.

Present.

Daniel Claus Esqr. Depy. to Sr. Wm. Johnson Bart. The Chiefs of Caghnawagey. } Ph: Philips Interpr.

Adighwadooni of Aughquisasne, directing his Discourse to Sir William Johnson Bart. spoke as follows.

Brother Warraghyagey.

By this String of Wampum we beg to remind you of what you Transacted with the Deps. of ye. Seven confederate Nations of Canada in August 1760. near Swegachy, when in behalf of the Great King of England, and the Concurrance of the Commander in chief of his Troops then on the Spot, you entered into preliminary Engagemts. with [depu]tized by sd. 7 Nations, that provided [ ] on the English Armys descending the [River] & during the final Conquest of Canada you would secure to us the quiet & peace-

able Possession of the Lands we lived upon, and let us enjoy the free Exercise of the Religion we were instructed in; which Engagements we then firmly & mutually agreed upon, and after the final Conquest of this Country they were confirmed and ratified by you in behalf of the Great King of England our Father, at a general Congress of all the Ind^n^. Nations in Canada, held by you at Caghnawagey, all which is still fresh in our Memories, & we on our Side have strictly & inviolably adhered to.—
You will likewise remember that in Spring 1764 you ordered your Deputy, to publish & explain to us His Majestys most gracious Proclamation of Oct^{r}. 1763 confirming & securing to us our Possessions & Hunting grounds when at the same time you desired to collect our still dispersed People to their respective Nations & Villages.

a String

Brother Warraghiyagey.

We are sorry to represe[nt to you] that said Engagements, have in some manner been in[ ] on your Side as we shall relate to you. You are no Stranger to our Manners & Customs, in particular you will allow that there is hardly an Instance of Indians of different Nat^{s}. residing together if possibly they can avoid it. You will then please to know, that some of the S^{t} Francis Indians, after their Village was cut off[1] came to us for Shelter & Reception desiring our Protection for one Night as their Expression was, or untill their Village was reestablished; we granted their Request & received them under our Protection. And when ab^{t}. 18 Months ago their Mission was replaced, the chiefs of this Village desired those of S^{t}. Francis to collect their People, and we warned those under our Protection to repair to their own Town & Nation. But we find now that thro the Insinuation of one M^{r}. Hartell, who on Acco^{t}. of his trading with them encouraged them to remain in our

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[1] By Robert Rogers on October 6th, 1759. *See* Rogers' *Journal*, p. 146–60.; *also* Amherst to Pitt, in *Correspondence of William Pitt*, 2:221–22, *ed.* Gertrude Selwyn Kimball.

Village, and obtained a Paper from the Governor of this Province, empowring them & Mr. Hartell to fix and establish themselves in our Village; Should this be the Case you must be sensible that the Peace & Tranquility of our Town is at an End, not only on Acco^t. of the Distinction our Nation always made between them & us, but more so, as they now boast & avail themselves of said Paper, and already go the Length of Telling us, that they have a better right to live & hunt at & about St. Regis than we who had nothing to show for our living there, and to convince us of their prerogative priviledges are destroying our peoples Beaver Traps wherever they come across them in the Woods, & in short engross not only ours but some of the 6 Nats. huntg. ground who blame us for it, wch. must unavoidably involve us together in Disputes & Troubles. It will appear very clear to you as well as any one that knows about our ways & Customs, that we never would have settled here, had we known that Strangers might mix & settle amongst us whenever they pleased, And no Nation of Indns. would attempt it of themselves, without being set on & encouraged to it by whites. We assure you Brother, that since Mr. Hartell forced himself upon us there was nothing but confusion & parties in our Village. And having last Summer thro the Mediation of your Deputy been reconciled and united, we in order to continue unanimous, were determind [to have] Mr. Hartell & the St. Francis Indns. leave our Village, but it Se[ems] wont let us enjoy that [ ] our Nation was so long deprived of: We therefore entreat and request you in behalf of [ ] who have jointly & unanimously resolved upon th[ ] to interpose in this Case, and give Govr. Carleton your [ ] thereon, as he seems to be an entire Stranger to our [Customs] and the Engagements & promises made us by you in be[half] of the great King of Engld. before the Surrender of Canada

Gave a Belt of Wam[pum]

Sir Williams Deputy told the Aughquisasne Indians in Ans[wer] that he had heard & understood, this their foregoing

Speech and request, and would agreable to their Desire make a Report thereof to Sir William Johnson p^{r}. Post.— he then acquainted them with the Conversation General Carleton had with him on the above Subject, being determined to support the S^{t}. Francis Ind^{ns}. in living at Aughquisasne, and that themselves nor the Cagawageys must imagine themselves Masters or proprietors of the Lands they lived on. They were surprized & said the Governour knew nothing of their Affairs, and seemed to encourage and bel[ieve] People that allways were known to be Authors of Mis[chief &] false reports.—
He then gave them a String of Wampum whereby he s[ummoned] them to a Meeting to be held at Onondago between the [Six Nat^{s}.] & the Cherakees, and acquainted the Caghnawageys [of] the Death of one of their People killed in the Cherokee Country by the Ilinois Ind^{s} & of anothers being taken & in the Hands of a French Officer which News they published in their Town by the D[eath] Yell as customary & other usual ceremonies on the like Occasion.

The Aughquisasnes before they returned asked to have [a] Smith at S^{t}. Regis on their own Acco^{t}. & Expences; Col C[laus] told them he would endeavour to recommend them an[d] then the Meeting broke up.

A true Copy, at Le Chine 22^{d}. Aug^{t}. [1769]

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

A. L. S.

August 21st. 1769

Dear Sir

On My Return home I found a Leter from m^{r}. Wharton Dated May y^{e}. 30th. wherein he Writes Me that a Noble Lord had Intrested himself Much In feaver of y^{e}. Grant to y^{e}. traders and had Spoke to Lord Hillsborrogh About itt who Tould him that he thought y^{e}. King wold Confirm itt provided y^{e}. Indians wold Nott alter the Limets of y^{e}. boundry, or In that Case wold

Give them another Tract Butt Said my Grant was two Much fer any Subject in Amerrica & that he had thought of granting all y^{e}. Cesion to Gentlemen in Englend and a good Dele of such Conversation, however he has promised that the King wold Make a grant for y^{e}. Loses in 54, and a Contract is Made fer My part of that Grant which will I hope Reimburst Me as Soon as I Can Send a power of atturny home, Butt My foot is a good Dale y^{e}. Worse for My Re[turn] home So that I Dont know when I Shall be [ ] to go to albany.

M^{r} Wharton Closes his Leter with Saying That if y^{r}. honer & the Six Nations Do Nott Make any alteration in the boundry below bigg Canhaye[1] that Every artickle of the Traty will be Confirm^{d}. as No Gentleman in Englan^{d}. has oposed or Said a Word against y^{e}. Traty butt Lord Hillsburugh

I am Dear Sir with Great Respect your

Honors Most obeident

Hum^{ble}. Servant

GEO: CROGHAN

To the Hon^{ble}. SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Barr^{t}

INDORSED: August 21^{t} 1769

Mr. Croghans Letter

FROM JOHN WETHERHEAD

A. L. S.

[*New York, August 21, 1769*]

[ ]

[ ] Just now had the pleasure of receiving yours of the [from whi]ch I am extremely Sorry to learn your Misfortune — I hope however you are by this Time gott perfectly well of your Hurt; which I assure you Sir I shall hear with great pleasure — I now take the Liberty of inclosing you a Copy of the Bill drawn by Mr. Roberts for your Governm^{t} it

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[1] Great Kanawha, W. Va.

Members of Assembly respecting the Present proposed to be made by the Government to the Relations of Young Seneca George, and that they all much approved of the Measure, and made not the least Doubt but the Assembly would chearfully defray the Expence of such Presents as might be thought necessary to be made, as well as the Charges attending the Transportation and Delivery of them.

"Whereupon it was agreed that the following Goods should be sent to Fort Augusta without Delay, and there delivered to the Indians by Colonel Francis, with a Message to be prepared by Mr. Logan and Mr. Peters, and the Secretary was desired to speak to Mr. Fox and request he would Order the said Goods to be provided accordingly.

Here follows the List of the Goods, Viz^{t}:

1 Piece of Black Strouds.
1 Ditto of Black half thicks (or Blue if Black cannot be got).
1 Ditto of Black Striped Duffills.
2 Ditto of Bandanoe Silk Handkerchiefs, dark Coloured.
1 Dozen of Shirts, Viz^{t} 6 Ruffled and 6 Plain,
2 Pieces of Gartering, Scarlet and Star.
50 lbs of Tobacco.
4 Pair of Shoes, and 4 pair of Buckles.
15 Gallons of Rum in 3 Keggs.
2 lbs of Vermillion.
1 dozen of Small Brass Kettles.
2 Barrels of Pork.

It is also agreed that Flour and Indian Corn sufficient for the Indians that may come to Augusta, be provided by Colonel Francis, on the Frontiers or at the Susquehanna.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 22d of August, 1770.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c^{a}.

The Hon^{ble} James Hamilton, William Logan,
Richard Peters, Lynford Lardner,
Benjamin Chew, James Tilghman, Esquires.

A Company of Indians to the Number of 37, including Men, Women, and Children, came to Town on Friday, and to-day five of their principal Men waiting on the Governor, they were invited into the Council, and on their behalf Shoanaszowa, a Seneca Indian, made the following Speech to the Governor:

"Brother:

"I am glad to have an Opportunity of seeing you; We are of your Brethren that live at Chenango, on the Susquehanna, and We

come down to see our Brother, to tell him that We have of late had a good deal of sickness, and are in great Distress. Our Brothers here have always been kind to Us, and We hope We shall now meet with the same kind Treatment We have always had from You.

A String of Wampum.

"Brother:

"You told us, at the great Treaty that was held last Fall, that You would keep the Road between us open and safe, and be good to us, and desired We would act in the same Manner. Our Disposition, we assure you, is not changed towards you, it is still the same as ever, and We hope You are likewise of the same good Temper towards Us. We find what you told Us then to be true, for We have come here without any Molestation. The way has not a Stick in it, but all is free and open, and our Journey has been safe.

"Brother:

"In former Times all this Country belonged to the Indians; now it is otherwise. Yon have a large Share of it, and I am glad to find You carry on a good Trade with Us, and We live together in Peace and Love. This is just as you promised it should be at the last Treaty.

A String.

"Brother:

"I hope you will now pay a particular Regard to what I am going to say. We are come here from a great way off, and are much fatigued. There are some of the six Nations where we live, and I am come at their Instance, as well as from the other Indians that are at Chenango, and I hope you will listen to me in their behalf.

"You see our Condition; We are very poor and ragged; We have not had a good Hunting Season; We have been very Sick, and are in Distress; Have pity on Us, and give us a little Cloathing; We are almost Naked."

A String.

Mr. Peters was desired to acquaint the Speaker of the House with this application, and ask him to provide what should be thought proper to be given on the Occasion.

—

Thursday, the 24th of August, 1769.

MEMORANDUM.

Mr. Fox having, at the Instance of the Governor, provided a present for the Indians, it was this Day delivered to them, and the Governor at the same Time spoke to them as follows:

"Brethren:

"I have considered what you said to me; it is all very agreeable; and I am glad to see you.

A String.

"Brethren:

"You may be assured We shall always observe to do whatever We promise in our Treaties. The People of this Province were always kind to their Indian Brethren; and will continue to be kind to them as long as the Indians, on their side, behave in a friendly, quiet and good manner.

A String.

"Brethren:

"I thought that the Country about Chenango was a good hunting Country; and that you might get Fish in Plenty; and that all sorts of Game abounded there. We are sorry that you tell Us of your distress and Poor Condition; and in consideration thereof, We have provided (though with some difficulty, as there are now scarce any Indian Goods in Town) a few things for you, which I desire your acceptance of as a Testimony of the Love the good People of this Province bear to their Indian Brethren."

Thursday the 24th of August, 1769.

MEMORANDUM.

The Governor having received further Intelligence respecting the Determination of the Connecticut People to continue to keep Possession of the Wyoming Lands, thought proper to dispatch by Express the following Letters and Instructions to Colonel Francis, at Fort Augusta, Mr. Charles Stewart, Mr. Amos Ogden and Mr. John Jennings, Sheriff of Northampton County.

A Letter from the Governor to Colonel Francis.

"PHILADELPHIA, the 24th of August, 1769.

"Sir:

"As the New England Men have not thought proper to observe their agreement made at Easton, but soon determined to retain their unlawful Possessions at Wyoming, I must desire you to exert your Influence in raising as good a Party as you can, in order to assist the Sheriff of Northampton in executing the King's Writ on the New England People at Wyoming who were indicted at Easton, and I hope you will find the People in your Neighbourhood as willing to embark in the affair as they have heretofore shewn themselves. When you can know what number you can procure, you will send an Express to Wyoming, informing Mr. Stewart or Mr. Ogden of it, that they may transmit the Account to the Sheriff of Northampton, and fix a Time of meeting him at Wyoming, in which you will take Care to allow Time enough.

"I send you £ , to defray the Expense of the Expedition.

"It is hoped you will be able to procure the People to go without Pay, as they have already manifested a very good Disposition to bring the Intruders to Justice, and to support the Civil power of the Government under which they live.

If the Persons Indicted have all left Wyoming, you will be made acquainted with it by Mr. Stewart or Mr. Ogden, and in such Case you need not proceed. I have a Confidence in your activity and Resolution, as well as in your Prudence, in this Service, and am, Sir,

"Your most obedient humble Servant,

"JOHN PENN.

"To Colonel TURBUTT FRANCIS at Fort Augusta."

A Letter from the Governor to Messieurs Stewart and Ogden.

"PHILADELPHIA, the 24th August, 1769.

"Sir:

"As the New England Men seem determined to remain at Wyoming, there is a Necessity that the Government should take proper Measures to bring the People Indicted at Easton to Justice; And for that Purpose I desire you will immediately repair to Wyoming, in order to carry on a Correspondance with Colonel Francis, who is desired to assist in this matter, and also with Mr. Jennings, the Sheriff of Northampton, who is properly instructed in the manner of executing the King's Writ against the Offenders.

"If, upon going to Wyoming, you find that all the Persons Indicted have left the place, you are immediately to advise both Colonel Francis and the Sheriff of it, that the Expence of bringing up their Parties may be avoided. If any thing particular should occur, which you may think proper for the Government to be apprized of, you are to send Expresses for the Purpose.

"I am, with great Regard, Sir,

"Your most Obedient humble Servant,

"JOHN PENN.

"To CHARLES STEWART OR AMOS OGDEN, Esquires."

FROM DANIEL CAMPBELL

A. L. S.

Schnectady the 25th August 1769

DEAR SIR

I now Send you by the Bearer Albert Maybee your pipe of Wine which Cost £50 & youll find it good at that price. I hope it may Arrive Safe with you & not meet with the Same fate the other pipe did Coming from Albany —

I am Extraimly happy In hearing that your Leg mends So well & wish Sincerely that it may Continue So till quit Recovered it has been Reported here for Some days past that you was Coming down here, & was going as far as Albany I hope it may be true as we long much to have the pleasure of Seeing you & I have been So much hurried Since You Came Home that I could not get So much as the Injoyment of two or three days to go up to pay my Respects to you

Mrs Campbell begs her Compliments to You & am Dear

sir with Great Respect
Your most hble Servt
DANIEL CAMPBELL

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Baronet

INDORSED:[1] Major D. Campbells
Letter August 1769

FROM DANIEL CLAUS

A. L. S.

[La Chine, August 25, 1769]

I sincerely wish these may find you safe returned and in perfect health after your Tour to the Six Nation Country — During your Absence I wrote to Brother Guy giving him an Accot. of my Arrival here and how I found Matters among the Indians here. Soon after I went to Quebec having been told by Capt. Maxwell that Governour Carleton wanted to see me; on my Arrival there he reced me very politely desiring I would accept of a Couvert at his Table while at Quebec when not better engaged, he then asked me some Questions ab^{t}. the Interpreters employed under me & the Arm^{r}. & Smiths Expences, and then came about to question me whether I desired the Aughquisasne Ind^{s}. that if M^{r}. Hartell insisted upon establishing himself in their Village to tie him hands & feet and send him to Montreal, and then drive away the S^{t}. Francis Ind^{ns}. living there; that such things if so would only cause ill blood between the Ind^{ns}. & cause a War; I told him I could not recollect any thing of the kind, that I relied entirely upon my public Transations with regard to M^{r}/ Hartells Affair at Aughquisasne w^{ch}. at añy time I could produce in writing, & could not recollect of having given any hints of the kind to the Ind^{ns}. that on the Contrary when s^{d}. Ind^{ns}. wanted the Abinaquis away last fall, I & the chiefs of Caghnaw^{y}. prevailed upon them to let them remain that Winter. That at the same time I never knew Ind^{ns}. of different Nations live together, besides there always subsisted an Antipaty between the Iroquois & Riv^{r}. Ind^{ns}. — He dwelt upon hinting that Indians should not be set up agst. one another; I told him for my part I scornd it & never was guilty of it. He said the Iroquois of Aughquisasne must drop those Notions of appropriating any Lands or Spots of Ground in Canada as they never had any in the french time, that the Abinaquis had as good a Right to be at Aughquisasne as they having been as it were but a day or two there before them. I told him the former had been several Years before them and pitched upon the Spot themselves as within the Limits of their & the 6 Nations hunting Ground. he said that if the Iroq^{s}. persisted of having the S^{t}. Francis Ind^{ns}. remove from thence he would be oblidged to interpose, as he should not chuse to have [ ] in his Province, besides the Abinaq^{s}. would soon get the better as they would have all the Mikmacs[1] & River Ind^{s}.] I smiled and told him that as to that the others could [ ] formidable Alliance, but that I was persuaded the for[ ] not enter so rashly into a War with the Allies of the 6 [Nations.] thus the Conversation broke off.

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[1] In Johnson's hand.

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[1] An Algonquian nation below Quebec city and in the Maritime Provinces.

Now you will please to know sir, that last fall after my leaving Montreal, Hartell obtained a Letter from the Gov^r^. consent[ing to] his residing at Aughquisasne, the Iroquois on his Arrival un[ ] to a Man opposed & refused him to stay, telling him they could not live [in] peace & Harmony while he was among them, as he delighted [in] making Mischief & Divisions among them in order to secure [his] Stay that they would advise him to return to Montreal peaceably otherwise they should be oblidged to use foul Means, repeating the [ex]pressions the Gov^r. questiond me ab^t. Hartell asked them by whose Authority they would do it, they in a passion replied by mine, whereupon he got his Mother an envenom'd piece to write to the Gov^r. (himself being incapable) and to wind him up to that pitch as to send positive Orders to the Iroquois to receive M^r. Hartell without the least Opposition on their peril, & not to molest the Abinaquis in residing there, and they quietly submitted to it. (N. B. Hartell trades with the Abinaquis whose Interp^r. he was formerly & now is reinstated.)

On my return from Quebec I heard the Aughquisasne Indians came in a Body to Caghnawagey & wanted to see and speak with me, and on finding I was arrived they beg'd to be heard, I met them at Caghnawagey when they delivered me the inclosed Speech directed to you. After they had finished I gave them the Conversation between me & the Gov^r. asking them if ever I told them to tye M^r. Hartell & send him to Montr^l. they said they did not doubt this was M^r. Hartells Story to the Gov^r. in order to carry his point; it was true they told him in a passion when he persisted of establishing himself for good in their V[illage] that if he would not peaceably leave their Town they should be oblidged to lay hands on him in the Manner I directed them [at the] Begin^g. of my taking care of their Aff^{rs}. w^{ch}. was that when

[ ] Deserters or other Vagrants came to skrein them [selves among them not to har]bour them, but deliver them either [ ] or Military & in case of Resistance not to hurt them but secure them from escaping & bring them to Montreal. They said they were surprized the Govr. would give Credit & dicieded upon a Frenchmans Story, before he heard that of an english Officers, that for their part they never could rely on any thing Mr. Hartell told them since they knew him, that it seemd the Govr took pleasure in Disputes since he encouraged those that set them on foot, that he ought not meddle in their domestick Affrs. being an entire Stranger to them & would only cause Disorder & Confusion among them; He lost his Credt. wth. the Caghnaws & Aughquiss: by this Stroke of Arbitrarism, he is found fault wth. for the same thing among the English both civil & military & is popular only wth. those french that flatter him & recive favours from him. The Caghnaws &ca. dislike his appointing and consulting with french People in their Affrs. & say they will have nothing to say to them; he caused Jealousies by giving Medals of a coarse make to the Loretto & St. Francis Indns. by the hands of the Priests, and one to Otkwandageghte who has been deserted by the Swegachy Indns. & took up with those of St. Francis at Aughquise. The Commandg. Officer of Montreal was ordered to deliver the latter & the Indian was so dashd & conscious of not deserving it, that he would not wear it & gave it in care of M: Pillet. The Commissn. he had from Govr. Vaudreuil was exchanged or rather translated in English, of wch. I have a Copy.

After I finished with the Aughquisasnes I went to Caneghsadagey, those 3 Nats. expecting me impatiently and on my Arrivl. shewed me more Respect than ever, by saluting me with the Discharge of 3 Cannon & 3 rounds of small Arms, their young Men finely dressed & drawn up in 2 Ranks to receive me at my Landing the Major with his Sword drawn & the Officers saluting with their Spontoons; The chiefs followed me to my Lodging & then addressed me with expressing their Joy on my coming to see them, while I was [ ] them my Thanks for their civility, a Messenger came in from an Arundax chief of S^d^. Village, who I was told lay on his Death Bed better than a fortnight [to let] me know that since my Return from Quebec he waited for my A[rrival in]Anxiety for fear he should die before he saw me & the [ ] I would not delay [ ] Cap^t^. M^c^ Bean & Lady of the Artill^y^ were in Comp^y^. on [ ] Room, found him in a deep Consumption a mere Skeleton [ ] he stretched out his hand to me with a wishfull Loock, and said [ ] he was satisfied & could die contented, all he wanted with me [before he] died, was to recommend his Nation to me, & to continue that R[egard for] them, w^ch^. I allways showed them since I had the Care of them, that [their affairs] never were so well conducted than since under the Eng^sh^. Governm^t^. [&] should he have lived to see his former father the french Gov^r^. he [would have] reproached with never having that care taken of the Ind^ns^. then the [ ] Engl^d^.— This was interpr^d^. to me by the Priest & S^t^. John who is now employed by the Prov^ce^. they were oblidged to interpret justly there being [ ] Arund^x^. pres^t^. that understood french. I returned him thanks for his [ ] told him was sorry to see him in y^t^. Condit^n^. and assured him that I sho[uld] not alter my Disposition & good Wishes for the Wellfare of his & all other Nations of Ind^ns^. while under my Care & they behaved well, that he might be assured that all good & faithfull Ind^ns^. to the English would [always] be taken Notice of & countenanced &^ca^. I then took leave of him And he expired a couple of hours after. I saw him decently buried & the Ceremony of Condolence performed by a Caghnaw^y^. chief [who] was w^th^. me.

This Country after suffering under a famine since last fall till within a fortn^t^. passt, during the latter time Wheat rose to 5 Doll^rs^ p^r^ french Bush^l^. and several poor people died for want: — Now enjoys a time of Plenty having had a rich harvest of all kinds of Grain. The Caghnawageys will never forget your Care & Goodness in sending them Seed Corn, without w^ch^. they say they must have starved this Winter, and are now allmost sure of a plentifull corn harvest, & getting into the Seed of sweeter Corn [than] they ever had, & in short are quite happy.

Math^{w}. Wade has failed & keeps close at home, his Bro^{r}. Franc is here & has seized every thing he had, & there is a Writ out agst. him for £300. Half^{n}. Cu[ ] I sent him last fall a Draft of M^{r}. Phyns for £139.N.Y. to pay off some Ind^{n}. Acc^{ts}. for me, and I find he left ab^{t}. 25 or 26 pounds unpaid w^{ch}. I shall be oblidged to pay over ag^{n}. I think it very hard. The inclosed Letter were delivered me from La Bay they contain I hear some Intelligence from that Quarter.

The Indians will in a few days be gone on their Winters hunt, when I shall return home, in the interim I remain with Respect & Duty and Complim^{ts}. to all the family

Hon^{d}. sir
Your Obedient Son
DAN. CLAUS

[SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON] Bar^{t}. &^{ca}
This letter was to go 8 days ago by
Cap^{t} Gardner who went away
without it before the Time [ ]

TO THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 432, is listed a letter of August 26th to the Earl of Hillsborough, giving an account of proceedings with the Six Nations, causes of discontent and jealousy, Monsr. Verchere's inflammatory speech, Johnson's own relations with Indian commissaries, etc., frontier troubles and alarms and his policy of dividing the Indians. (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:948–54; Q, 2:549–52 and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 8:183–86) that in case I am of opinion that it may be of ill consequence, His Majesty will ratify the boundary agreeable to the Treaty, to which I have only to add that since my last Tour into the Indian Country I find my former opinion so much strengthened, that I think it highly prudent to decline the mention of the affair unless I receive y^{r} Lordship's orders to the contrary, or that something should occur that may justify me in so doing.

The R^{t} hon^{r}ble The Earl of Hillsborough

Endorsed

"(N^{o} 10.) August 21st 1769.
To the Earl of Hillsborough."

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

Johnson Hall Aug^{t} 26th 1769.

My Lord,

Having had the honor to write your Lordship on the Subject of the Boundary & Cession which Letter accompanys this I am now to give your Lordship an Account of the Transactions during my late tour through the Countrey of the Six Nations.

I left home on the 26th June and after many delays arrived at Onondaga the 10th July where I found the Chiefs &^{c} of that nation with Sev^{l} others from the Neighbouring Villages who being in great want of Indian Corn from a failure of their Crops I gave them a Supply of that & Sev^{l} other Articles, & previous to my Gen^{l} Meeting held Sev^{l} private conferences with the Chiefs at their Hunting Cabbins returning from one of which in the night, My Canoe overset, & in ascending the bank I rec^{d} a very Severe Cut by a fall on my wounded leg which had very nigh rendered me incapable of proceeding, however on finding myself a little easier I held a Congress with them 2 days after which they opened with a Speech wherein they made many enquiries after news, & whether a War was not to be commenced between England France & Spain, They said they were well assured of this, & that there were many things which gave them much concern, amongst the rest That some of y^{e}. nation continued Obstinately bent on War, and that they feared it would Compell them to disturb the Cherokees & others with whom they had made peace. That the Intrusions of the New Englanders into Pennsylvania they were afraid would draw Some of their people into a War, and that it gave them concern to find that those persons who had the Management of the Trade were removed:—I gave them all the satisfaction in my power on these heads & afterwards proceeded for Cayuga where there were about 500 Indians Assembled, with whom I had a meeting to much the Same effect as with the Onondagas only I observed that the further I advanced into the Indian Country, the more earnest the Indians appeared in their Sev^{l} discourses. I next went to Seneca, where I had Summoned the chiefs of that nation as also those Indians living near the head of Ohio to meet me, who Soon Assembled to the number of 2000 & upwards, before I met them in publick I was visited by two Chiefs in whom I have always had reason to place much confidence who told me that they had laboured hard for Some months to keep their people in order and to prevent their receiving Sev^{l}. belts which had been Sent to their Country for very bad purposes, but that nevertheless many came to their hands which had occasioned a Spirit of Discontent ams^{t} them as I would find on opening the Congress, about the Same time Messengers arrived notifying the approach of a number of Cherokee Chiefs who were coming to attend a Gen^{l} Congress to be held at Onondaga at the beginning of next month to which the chiefs of all the Canada confederacy & other Northern Indians were Summoned to renew & Strengthen Alliances. When we Assembled the Senecas began with a long detail of what they called Grievances, They Said that they found the Conduct of all people altered for the worse towards them, That not a Season had passed Since the late peace without the murder of Some of their people by the Inhabitants, That by withdrawing those who had the inspection of the Trade &c Frauds & abuses would be more common than ever; That no business could be Transacted without Interpreters at the posts & that they could not do without Smiths, to mend their arms and other implements used in Hunting That they were well assured that a War was near at hand, & that they were courted to engage in it, which tho' contrary to the Sense of their Chiefs might probably be agreed to by to many of the Warriors, If those affairs which gave them So much uneasiness were not adjusted for they saw there was no provision made for their redress, I then explained to them what I had in Gen^{l} made known before to the Confederacy, Touching the present System for Indian affairs. That they would find the Colonies heartily disposed to make what Establishments were necessary and to prevent frauds or Injustice of every kind, but that they ought to make allowance for the importance of these matters as they required Some time to be put on a proper footing & that those whose Interests & Trade were So materially Connected with them would certainly pursue the wisest measures for promoting peace & Commerce. They answered that I had told them So before, That they well knew how Slow our people here were, & that altho' Some of the Old people of every nation were still disposed to believe all this, They found the Majority of the rest particularly of the other Confederacies were not. They gave me a long State of the Politicks of the other Nations, on which they observed that the fact was the Indians expected to meet the same treatment from us which they had done from the French, That the latter repeatedly told them they would not, That they found it too true, & that they were full of Resentment thro' Disappointment.

It may not be amiss here to remark that when Ind^{s}. are Disposed to Quarrel they collect all the materials they can as Grounds for their conduct & often insist on things as Grievances, which in reality have given them little Concern The true Cause is often misrepresented, & therefore the proper remedy is Wanting. They are Jealous of us & envious of one another, & I dont doubt but that the late Great present may prove a means of dividing the Councils of the Six Nat^{s}. with the rest, for tho' the sole right was in that confederacy (& double the sum wo^{d}. not have contented all who desired to partake of it) The rest will probably be Jealous of it of which I am in hopes a proper use may be made.

During my stay at Seneca, I saw and spoke with sev^{l} Indians from different Nations who brought belts of union & messages, & after having settled matters for obtaining a knowledge of what is to pass at the Congress before mentioned, I took leave of the Indians & arrived here about 10 days ago, much indisposed nor am I yet recovered from the Hurt I received at Onondaga, so that I hope your Lordship will excuse any defects in this Short Sketch which is extracted hastily from my Journal.— On my way home I was overtaken with the news of a Murder of a Young Seneca Lad who was fired upon on the River Susquehanna by some of the frontier Inhabitants without the least provocation given (of which I have since rec^{d}. an acc^{t}. from Pensylv^{a}.) as the father of this Lad has generally lived within the Settlements, & with the whole family demonstrated the most zealous attachment to the English, & were much respected by the Indians, the murther is a very unlucky accident at this time, but it is not alone, sev^{l}. others having been lately committed by the Infatuated & Lawless Inhabitants on the frontiers of Virginia &c. who as they have hitherto acted with Impunity are encouraged to go on.—And tho' the effects of all this have not been Sensibly felt for some time, they at length begin to make their appearance particularly about the Illinois, Ohio &c of which your Lordship will doubtless receive information from the Commander in Chief, the Indians having killed sev^{l}. people attacked & plundered sev^{l}. Traders boats & in short blocked up the Communication of the Ohio so that it is no longer practicable for the Traders, whilst at the same time They are endeavouring to form a more strict alliance than ever for purposes that are but too obvious, seeming only to wait the success of their negotiations for the Commencement of Hostilities, and altho' upon these occasions they use much caution and secrecy, yet some part of their late conduct does not exactly agree with it, but shews an Extraordinary degree of Confidence from some Quarter, of which the answer herewith inclosed to the Speech of Lt. Col Wilkins Commandg. at Illinois furnishes some instances, to Illustrate which I have annexed some notes. I have recd. a Copy of the Speech of Mons. VerChere formerly a French officer to the Indians of Lake Erie as now delivered by them; this Speech was made known to me by some Spies I have who with many others since positively affirm that he gave them a present in the name of the French King and desired them to hold themseves in readiness, but on my communicating it to the General who wrote concerning it to Canada, the Indians who esteem Verchere came to the Comdt. at Detroit delivered up Vercheres belt, and also the Speech in the manner sent me, and was evidently altered to prevent his meeting with punishment, nevertheless tho' they have certainly suppressed much of what he said to them enough remains which to a man conversant in their Idiom would be a convincing proof without any thing farther.—In short as I suspected & frequently represented would be the case, none but Frenchmen can go into their Country to the Westward, & the Indians positively and publickly declare, to all people that they will suffer no others into their Country. I was informed that the French were at the bottom of the representations artfully prepared to get the Genl. Liberty for Trading at Large in the Indn. Country which I then observed was calculated for them to Engross it all.

In the mean time the Colonies have as yet done nothing Except £150 Voted by N York for the defraying the expenses of officers of Trade a sum scarcely worth mentioning & the Govr now writes me that he mentd his apprehensions of the Indns uneasiness for want of Commissaries to the members of Assembly but without effect & adds that the Inadequate provisn made for Interpreters & Smiths shews how little the matter in agitation was understood—In short none of those conversant in these matters expect they will do anything material I ought the rather to mention this because in your Lordships Letter of Octobr 12th 1768. (No 6) you observe that the reliance on the benefits Intended to be the result of the late measures was not upon their propriety but "upon the execution of them & upon the regulations which the Colonies shall think fit to adopt for the management of the Commercial part." I kept people on the frontiers as long as I possibly could consistent with his Majesties Instructions & gave timely notice to the Colonies concerned that they must be withdrawn, as did the Commander in Chief, but without effect, and I persuade myself that your Lordships long knowledge of American affairs will render it necessary for me to point out the little expectation of these measures having the effect desired be the consequences what they will. Tis my sense of these consequences alone that induces me to offer a word in addition to what I formerly said hereon, for I aver upon my honor I never had the smallest advantage in the appointments that formerly existed, but addl trouble in Corresponding with the officers, constantly sending them instructions & paying their accts & settled sallarys when I recd them from the Comr in chief, and very often obliged to advance them money befor I recd it myself. Your Lordship will then judge how little I ought to have Coveted this from any other motive than the better execution of the public Service.

This moment I have advice that the people have abandoned their settlements from Bedford to Fort Pitt, in consequence of some Robberies committed by some partys of Indians, and also fearing their resentment for their own late conduct towards them, That a party of Inds coming from war had robbed a House where there was only one Woman, whom they threw into the Potowmack, on which a party of the Inhabitants pursued & killed three of the Indians, That they had then resolved to augment their number & proceed to cut off a Mingo Village not far from thence, If so, a War is inivitable. In short there is but too much Licentiousness on all sides for by the same acct. I am assured that Callender a Trader on his way to Fort Pitt with 25 Horses Loaded with Indian Goods was attacked near Bedford by 30 White men disguised & painted like Indians who destroyed & Carried away the Greatest part of his Goods declaring they would suffer none to pass on to the Ind^s. That this circumstance has greatly exasperated the Ind^s & contributed to alarm the peaceable part of the White Inhabitants. When we consider the state & disposition of the Indians a people without Laws, or Government very revengeful and influenced much by French Councills & very Jealous of us, We may conclude that as these people cannot in Gen^l be kept in order without an Expence that may be deemed greater than its Object, All we can do is to divide their Councils & retain a part of them in our Interest, which I am pretty confident I have Interest and Influence to do at all events; It is highly necessary to prevent a too Gen^l union amongst them, and I should rather have declined taking the pains I did to effect a peace between the Six Nations & Cherokes, because we enjoy the most security when they are divided amongst themselves At the breaking out of the late Indian War I proposed to raise Indians to be employed against the enemy, It was thought giving them too much Consequence, however I took upon myself to send out a few parties which notwithstanding the pains generally taken to allow them as little merit as possible Contributed Essentially to bring that war to a Conclusion. For altho' it may be said & is in part true that Ind^s are unwilling to fight against one another in our Quarrells, there are many exceptions to this Opinion. There are some to be had who will join with ardour against any Enemy, & many more whom it is policy to retain in our service, who tho' at first unwilling to act offensively from maxims of policy, Yet if by any means blood is drawn will become principals in the war, & this the Indians are so sensible of that there is nothing of which they are more apprehensive.

I hope that whatever is the Issue of the present Alarms I shall be able to retain a large body in his Majesties Interest, & even to get them to act against the Enemy if it is required of me, and so soon as I receive any farther information that may be material, I shall communicate it immediately

I have the honor to be &c

The R^t. honble
The Earl of Hillsborough.

SIR W^M. JOHNSON TO L^T. GOV. COLDEN.

Johnson hall, Oct. 4th 1769.

DEAR SIR,

I sincerely congratulate you on your once more entering upon the Administration of Government, and I most Cordially wish you health, Success, and Satisfaction in the discharge, of it tho' as you Justly observe there will be doubtless some who will endeavor to throw difficulties in your Way, but I expect you will Surmount them. The pleasure of seeing you, would I do assure you be no small inducement to my undertaking a Journey to New York At present however it is not in my power, as you have probably heard that on my late Tour thro' the Six Nation Country as I returned from holding a private Meeting in the Night, my Canoe was overset & in ascending a Bank I got a fall by which my Leg was very dangerously Cut with a Stake which has hitherto Confined me to the House, as it did for some time to my Chamber. The advice you give me tho' I take it Extremely kind, is founded on the Expectation of an Event, which would give me real concern, and therefore I must be very far from desiring it.

Sir H Moore sometime ago promised that he would take some Measures for effectually Securing to the Mohocks and Conajoharees the Lands on and about their Villages, this the Ind^s. spoke of at the late Treaty at Fort Stanwix and I am persuaded that you will do whatever is best for that end, with a View to wch I shall send you the Surveys wch S^r Harry directed me to get made in order to know their

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Johnson hall Septr 14th 1769—

Sir

My long Absence from home and indisposition since occasioned by a fall I got at Onondaga will I hope Apologize for my Neglecting to Answer your Letters since June last.— I am but Just recovering from the hurt I received & therefore have not been able to look over my back Letters so that I do not exactly recollect the ~~subject~~ particulars of the Letter regarding yourself which was I think in May last— To the best of my remembrance you wanted to make some little purchase in an Advantageous Place in this Country, and in this I shall be glad if I can serve you. I should first inform you that the Nature of the soil and other advantages, has for some years past so attracted the attention of all who knew these circumstances that there is no Land to be had unpatented very near the Market or the Mohock River, but there are some Tracts of very good Land which have been purchased within these 2 years past, in which If you inclined to it I might get you a Share. The Indian purchases of these have been in general about £~~10. or~~ 12 the Thousand, (tho' some are ~~much~~ vastly higher) & the Patent fees £25 the Thousand, but If a Small purchase was made of the Indians the Indn. purchase would amount to 3 or 4 times as much— If from what I have Mentioned you incline to have 2 ~~or 3~~000, Acres or thereabouts I shall gladly do what I can to get it as advantageously for you as the Nature & Circumstances of the Tract will admit of—

I have not heard from Mr. Seaberry since he went down. I have a very favorable Character of him and am sorry that the Terms mentioned to him did not Seem a Sufficient inducement for removing his family, possibly the Society may augment the Sallary on a farther Consideration of the Subject.

Mr. Griffith who delivered me your favor of the 21st. ulto. Came

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Dr. Auchmuty

to be a man of Merit and I am glad to find he purposes to take Orders. — I should be glad to have the Deeds for the late Dr. Barclays ~~H~~ place, as I am a Stranger to the bounds &ca and ſhould have it Surveyed & properly aſcertained for the purpose Intended by the Purchase. — The Schoolmaster whom I fixed at Fort Hunter, has already 30 Indian Children, is well liked and going on Succeſsfully, and the Schoolmaster at Johnstown has near Double that Number of Whites & Indians, and both Schools are likely to encrease fast. — I cannot help still Complaining of the Want of Miſsionaries, and that we are letting slip the best opportunity there will ever be for promoting the Establish Church in these parts. Yet out of the four Miſsions Albany only is provided for, In Schenectady I hear that many of our Church are under the Neceſsity of Aſsociating with others of a different Denomination who begin to make great advances, I should think some Young Gentlemen of Slender Interest in our Universities might be found that would take orders for these purposes. —

Sept. 14th 1769

To Dr. Auchmuty

TO THOMAS PENN

Df.[1]

Johnson Hall Septr. 15th. 1769

DEAR SIR

I am Just favored with your kind Letter of the 6th June, with that on the back of the 29th and inclosing the Copy of his Majestys Grant to me On this occasion I am impressed with the Deepest Sense of Gratitude to his Majesty and to the Council and Officers of State As well on account of the Grant as of the Nature of it, but I ought in a particular manner to Express my Most sincere and thankfull Acknowledgements to you, Sir, to whose Steady Attention and sollicitation I am principally indebted for the regard paid to my Application, and the manner in which it is Obtained of all which I shall ever retain the most Gratefull remembrance, and I persuade myself that you will believe me to be always ready to demonstrate by any Means in my power the Just sense I have of these Obligations and of the manner in which you have obtained the Grant.—

The receiving it free of Quit rent Leaves me not the least reason to Say any thing concerning the fees, but am greatly obliged to you for those you have been so kind as to Advance, and request you will favor me with an Acct of the Amount of the Whole for which I shall imediately send you a Bill And as to the Grant, I shall take it as an additional favor, If you will order it to be put up and Sent by the First Pacquet to Me to the Care of the honble John Watts Esqr. at N York who will Carefully forward it —

I am lately returned from a Tour thro' the Whole Country of the Six Nations as far as Seneca, Where I took the opportunity of Carrying up the Dollars owing for your purchase Which I paid in public to each of the Nations [ ] their Thanks and satisfaction at it, and gave me [ ] which I transmitted about 10 days ago to Lieut Gov^{r}. [Penn.] The Advantage of my going into the Ind^{n}. Country [ ] Expence of this Affair very Small compared with what it [would] have amounted to had I called them together down [to this] Country, as you must recollect that the Money was not ready for them when they Sold the Lands last Year on wch acct I passed my Note to them. They Expressed a good deal of anger at the Intrusion of the New England [missionaries &] said they feared it would set some of their people a quarreling but really from the present disposition of the Indians (which was partly the Cause of my Making the Tour) I fear they will [not] be long quiet. The Conduct of the Indians about the Ilinois and Ohio has been lately such as to leave us no doubt of their h[ostile] Intentions and the French Traders and others with those Indians who are dissaffected are daily by belts, Messages &ca endeavoring to draw all the rest into a Confederacy with them, which I am doing all that is in my power to prevent, and hope to succeed with Sev^{l}. of the Nations beyond what might be Expected from the present State of Things and the Small Allowance [ ] stipulated for the Expences of my department. The Indians Complain much of the Withdrawing those who had the Ins[pection] of Trade, and of the reduction of favors which (however [ ] they expected a longer continuance of; They make m[uch] Clamour about the repeated Murders committed on their [people] by the frontier Inhabitants, to add to which I had but Just [arrived in] the Seneca Country when I received advice of the Murder [of a] very faithfull Young Indian of that Nation on the [River] Susquehanna, & Since that the people on that Frontier [ ] & Stopped the Traders Goods declaring they won't Suffer [ ] forward. What all these & much more proceedings of [ ] other Quarters will end in seems but too [obvious] have good hopes that my endeavors will [ ] Wish that in my Next Letter I may be enabled to give you a better Account of Affairs here, and Shall Conclude by again repeating my Most Sincere & hearty

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[1] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

Thanks for the signal Instances of your Friendship, Assuring you that I shall ever be with the greatest Sincerity and Truth, Dear Sir,

Your most Obedient
& most Obliged humble Servt.

INDORSED: [ ]
To the Hon'ble Thos. Penn Esqr.

FROM JOHN PENN

A. L. S.[1]

Philadelphia Sepr. 16th. 1769

SIR

I now acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the seventeenth and twenty seventh of August.— I have the pleasure to inform You, that at a meeting of the Indians at Fort Augusta, the twenty first of last month, Colonel Francis on the part of this Government, condoled with them upon the death of Seneca George's Son, and it appears by the minutes of the Conferences he had with them, that they were extremely well Satisfied. You have undoubtedly seen some account of this matter in the Newspaper.

By some late Intelligence I have from Fort Pitt and other Parts of the County of Cumberland, there does not seem to be much reason at present to apprehend any disturbance from the Indians. I readily believe the frontier people treat them very ill; and that the withdrawing the bounty & Protection they were accustomed to, must be a matter of Complaint. I am quite of your opinion, that this Province should provide inspectors, Smiths & Interpretors at proper places for the Conveniency of the Indians, and shall do whatever lies in my power to promote so useful an Establishment.

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[1] In Harvard College Library, Cambridge, Mass.

I will order your account to be paid, as soon as you are pleased to inform me, to whom the money is to be sent in New York. I am with great Regard

Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
JOHN PENN

P:S:

Our Surveyors will be at the big Island the twentieth of October next, in order to meet the Indians, that are to attend the running the line from the Susquehanna to Kittaning.,— You will be kind enough to make their number as small as possible.

SR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart

INDORSED: Philadelphia 7br.: 16h.
1769

Lt. Govr. Penns Letter
Ansd. Octr. 24th.—

FROM JOHN WETHERHEAD

A. L. S.

New York the 18 Sepr. 1769

I had the pleasure of writing you on Monday last concerning Mr Roberts Bill to Edward Harrison, which you mention to have Credited Mr Mortier for the 25th May last, in Consequence of which I have been at Mr. Mortiers office in order to find out the Error if possible & find the Bill you advist to is a Bill ꝑ £200, but the Bill in Question is for £100, drawn a different Day; if you please to examine this Matter a little you will find it So — the Bill Holder here was with me on Saturday and threatend immediately to protest the Bill Unless I paid it, as you mentiond to me you woud pay it as Soon as you Coud find out the Error; I have complyd with the Bill Holder's Request & paid the Bill; I will therefore request the favour of you to Send me a draft for it as soon as it Shall be convenient to you I hope you will have

JOURNAL OF ALEXANDER MCKEE

A. D.[1]

[ ] May last the Shawanese, Delawares, and Senicas of [ ]il with the Twightwees, Piankisaw's, Waweoughtenoes, Musquetons, [ ]s that Live upon the Wabash, at Stoney River when they Settled all [ ] former Disputes and entred into a Strong and firm Alliance, by which they [ ] to Live and die by each other, and are also to Defend themselves against any Enemy that may hereafter Quarrel with either of them whether English or Indians. The Senicas, Shawanese, Delawares, Munseys, Moheckons, & Musquaghkees who reside upon the Ohio and its Waters in a Meeting of their own this Summer have Complained much of the Conduct of the Six Nations giving up so much of the Country to the English without asking their Consent & Approbation and say the Lands down the Ohio to the Cherokee River is as much theirs as the Six Nations, it having been Conquered by the whole Confederacy and the Senicas and Cayugas have declared to these Nations that it was Contrary to their Judgements to do so but that the Mohawks, Onidas, Onondagoes, & Tuskaroras would have it so. The Shawanese, & Delawares have Built this Summer a very large Council House at Scioto to which they have invited all the Wabash Indians the Hurons, Ottawas, Putiwatimies, and Chepawas and likewise all the Chiefs of the Senicas ware to be present;— This great Meeting was to [take] place the latter end of June or July—; A Deputation of [Shawan]ese followed the Cherokees to Fort Pitt and took Six of them [ ] The Intention of this Meeting is to form a [ ] Southern Nations together; against the English and the Senicas are to [ ] of the whole, the Mohawks, Onidas, Tuskaro[ras] to be left out to do as they please.—

The above information I have had from a Chief who has been

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[1] Inclosed in the preceding letter, of September 18th.

[ ] private Meetings, and says this plan has been on foot th[ ] Years past but could not be brought to bear till now, th[ ] with the Southern Indians is Settled—; He says this G[ ] was first Recommended by the French in order to drive the [English] out of their Country and Burn all their Forts, that they [would not] Strike untill the French would come to Assist them, But [the] Numbers of White people and Surveyors that come out this [ ] to Settle and Survey the Country about Fort Pitt and down [the] Ohio has set all their Warriors in a rage, and has been y^e^ prin[cipal] cause of hastening this Meeting, for it had been agreed on [ ] Winter to be put off untill next Summer; He likewise told [me he] had certain advice from New Orleans that Forty Battoes with Amunition &ca was to be sent from thence this Fall up to the [ ] Ohio by the French and Spaniards for their several Nations [ ] they the French and Spaniards would make War upon the E[nglish next] Spring upon the great Lake; he told me that the Shawanese &] Delawares had come to a Resolution not to be the [first (?)] and that they had told the Senecas so, as they had [ ] last War, The Senicas in answer to this d[ ] and they would see them [start] it heartily before, but were determined to begin here and the [ ] southward. The Conduct of the Senica [ ] seems to Confirm the certainty of this being their present plan, as they are the only Indians who beheave Insolently or Ill [about] Fort Pitt, Killing Cattle, Stealing Horses, and in short plundering every House & Field they come to; And I am sorry to say the White people on their parts beheave as Ill to their Indian Neighbours, and seem to Wish for a Quarrel as much as the Indians. There is now several Indians of the Shawanese & Delawares come to the West and East Branches of Susquohannah to take away this Fall to Ohio, all their Friends amongst the Six Nations and have Belts to Invite the Moheckons, Munseys, & Nanticokes to go & Live at Scioto where they have Lands for them which the Six Nations can not Sell to the English.

Sir

Fort Pitt Septr 20th 1763

I had the Honour to receive Your Letter dated the 24th of last Month On the 15th Inst

With respect to the Disposition, and Behaviour of the Savages I mentioned it to your Excy in a Letter dated the 27th of April last. I have since that Informed You, that they Intimidated the Inhabitants So much As to Cause Many to fly from their Plantations to the Inhabitable part of the Country

The numbers of People would not be persuaded, but that they intended to break out, and by what I Can learn Sent Very Exaggerating Accounts of the Behaviour of the Indians down the Communication, Yet I had reason to believe they were not properly prepared to do So this Season

Had I found out for Certain that had been their design I Should not have delay'd informing Your Excy of it

It would have been Impertinence in me to Trouble You with A recital of the different Accounts I daily Received

At the Time I gave Major Hamilton Some hints of it, I was Perplex'd with reports, from Every Quarter, few of which proved true

I have it from good Authority that they will not break out this fall. I think the Season too far Advanced for their doing any Mischief

The Accounts I believe are True, which Your Excy has got of the Frontier Inhabitants of Pensilvania and Virginia, and I will venture to Say, if some Speedy method is not hit upon to stop their Licentious Behaviour, and to Prevent them from wantonly Killing Indians. They were certainly going on an Expedition either next Spring or Winter.

I am Extremely Obliged to Your Excellency for the kind construction Your pleased to put on the Dunchards report of my Behaviour to Indians. They had no grounds for taking the Liberty to inform You, Upon my Honour they are Entirely false. I never Struck An Indian nor abused them, neither were they refused Refreshment as far as in reason I could do it.

Had I to Answer all their demands for Provision, Rum &c &c they would destroy in one week more than all the Garrison would in A Month. Besides I know the Difficulty of breaking them of former Customs.

Five Indians, at different times have been in the Guard House only for one Night, since my being here. Two for Attempting to Steal Officers Horses, Two for Robbing the Garden, and one on Suspicion of Killing a White Man. These are the Only Injuries If they deserved to be Called So, they Ever received from me.

When the Company Escorting the Clothing for this Post, and Qr. Master arrive, I shall take the first Opportunity of proper Water to send them off. The Rivers at present are remarkably low. I Expect to provide them with A Very trusty Indian, and An Excellent Guide.

I am Sorry to be Obliged to inform Your Excy. that Charles Leningam, who was brought Prisoner on Suspicion of being Accessary in Murdering one Woman, and Two Children of which I wrote Your Excellency the 10th Inst. made his Escape last Night, through the Negligence of the Corpl of the Guard, who did not Attend when the Centry went out. As I have for A Considerable time taken the Sentry from the Guard House to Ease the Duty. The Prisoner got his Leg Bolts off and went Clear away with said Bolts.

There is an Account due for Rum and Tobacco given to Indians for the last half Year, Ending the 24th Inst. and as there is no Indian Agent at this Post I Beg Your Excys Directions how I am to Act to Satisfy the People from whom these Articles were got.

I am Sir With the Utmost Respect
Your Excys
Most Obedt And Most Humble
Servt
Cha. Edmonstone

Sir

As I was prevented from forwarding this Letter Yesterday, I take the Liberty to Enclose a Speech which was made this Morning by a Remarkable good Indian. His Name is Silver Heels and Begs it may be kept private.

This piece of Intelligence will prevent me from Sending Capt. Thompson's Company now on their March for this Place down the River: Till I know Your Excys Pleasure.

I am Sir Your Most Obedt
Servt
Cha. Edmonstone

Capt. Edmonstone 18th Regt.
Sept. 20th 1769. Fort Pitt
received Octr. 4th ——

Incloſing Intelligence given
by Silver Heels a Seneca Indian.

Anſwered

[illegible] 9-20-67

Coppy of A Speech made by —— ——

In Private, to Captn. Edmonstone, & Officers in Garrison — Simon Girty Interpreter,

Brothers —

It is from a Love for the English in General, and you in particular, that I have come here this day, with my heart full of Sorrow, to Inform you, that I see very clearly, the Indians Intend to Strike you —

Believe me Brothers, the Chiefs of the Six Nations have done all in their Power, to Curb the young Men, but to no purpose, for they are bent on War —

I am determin'd to be early enough in giving you information this time, because tho I saw the two last Wars Coming, I was afraid to Speak my mind, least by accident I might be deceiv'd, And tell my friends a Lie —

Brothers —

Your Suspicions relative to the last Party of Warriors were too well Grounded, For I have Since found out the Scalp to be White —

As for you Brothers in the Fort here, you are always prepared, But the two last Wars I saw with deep Concern, many of my white friends killed and taken, before they got the least notice, and hope you will take care to prevent that being the case this War —

Brothers

I know you will write this news to your Great Man at New York, But I charge you and him, as you are Men, not to mention my Name, to any One living, as you know I am an Indian, and must live among Them —

But the moment the first Blow is given I will come inn and Fight with you as I always did —

Brothers

I have now done, and have only to Desire you will not mention my Name, and that you will put the women and Children upon their Guard —

Fort Pitt 21st. Septr. 1769

Officers in Garrison at Fort
Pitt Sepr. 21. 1769

Copy of a Speech made by ———— in private to Captain Edmonstone & Officers in Garrison. Simon Girty Interpretor

Brothers It is from a love for the English in General, and you in particular. that I have come here this day. with my heart full of sorrow to inform you, that I see very clearly the Indians intend to strike you, Believe me Brothers. the chiefs of the six Nations have done all in their power to curb the young Men. but to no purpose. for they are bent on War. I am determined to be early enough in my information this time because the two last Wars. I was affraid to speak my opinion least by accident I shoud be deceivd & tell my friends a lie

Brothers: your suspicions relative to the last scalps which was brought inn. are too well founded. for I have since found it to be a White one; As for you in the Fort here you are always prepared, But the two last Wars. I saw with deep concern. many of my white Friends killed. & taken. before they got the smallest notice. and I hope you will take care to prevent that being the case this War.

Brothers I know you will write this Intelligence to the General; but I insist on it. as you & he are Men. you will not mention my name to any Soul living. As you know I am an Indian and must live among them.

But as soon as the first blow is struck. I will come in and Fight with you as I always did.

I beg of my friend Batt to write to Col. Francis as he lives in a dangerous Place. but once more must desire if you love me. do not tell my Name. I have now done Brothers. and let me beg of you to put the poor Women and Children on their Guard.

Fort Pitt 21st Sept. 1769.

Extract of a Letter from Col: Adam Stephen Dat: —— September 27th 1769.

My Lord

Your Lordship was informed by my last, that some of the worthless part of the Inhabitants over the mountains had kill'd an Indian, since the white mingo made his Speech to the Inhabitants of Redstone.

There are two more Indians kill'd since that murder, for particulars, I beg leave to refer your Lordship to the Bearer Colonel Wilson of Hampshire, who commanded a Company of militia in actual Service, under my direction last Indian War, and behav'd well. And who has at this time, acted with great Spirit as a magistrate, tho' the prisoner apprehended by his Warrant was rescued, by a Banditti, who, if not checked in time, will be troublesome to your Lordships Administration.

The Indians very highly resent the Conduct of our people, and threaten immediate Revenge, which if not prevented, will be attended with the most dismal consequences to this Colony and the neighbouring provinces.

Pardon me, my Lord, if I presume to inform your Lordship, that the most adviseable Step to be taken at this Crisis, seems to me to be your Lordships sending a person of Weight known to the Indians, to assure them in your Lordships Name that the behaviour of this Banditti is directly contrary to the sentiments of your Lordship, and Government of this Colony, and that your Lordship has issued orders, and pursued the proper measures for apprehending the Malefactors and bringing them to condign punishment.

Memorandum Tuesday the 19th of September 1769

The Governor received a Verbal Meſsage from the Aſsembly acquainting him that the House had met pursuant to Adjournment and were ready to receive any Business he had to lay before them to which His Honour answered that he had nothing in particular at present to recommend to their Consideration

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At a Council held at Philadelphia on Tuesday 26 September 1769

Present

The Honorable John Penn Esquire Lieutenant Governor &ca

and James Tilghman Esquire

The Aſsembly having sent up to the Governor for his Concurrence a Bill entituled "An Act for the Support of the Government of this Province and Payment of the Public Debts" the same was read and before any Determination should be made respecting it the Governor thought proper to send a Verbal Meſsage to the House by the Secretary requesting them to furnish him with a List of the Public Debts which are intended to be discharged by the Bill under his Consideration.

Wednesday the 27th of September 1769

Two Members of Aſsembly brought to the Governor an Estimate of the public Debts referred to in the Bill for the support of Government and also delivered to His Honour an Address from the House which is as follows viz.

To the Honorable John Penn Esquire Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania &c.

The Addreſs of the Representatives of the Freemen of the said Province in General Aſsembly met

May it please your Honour

We the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of Pennsylvania in Aſsembly met beg leave to represent that taking under our Consideration the several Laws lately paſsed for the Preservation of the Fish in the Rivers Delaware Susquehanna and Schuylkill and making the last mentioned Navigable find notwithstanding the salutary Provisions in the said Laws a large Number of Wears Dams Baskets and other Obstructions have been and daily continue to be erected in the said Rivers whereby the good Intentions of the Legislature are rendered ineffectual and the

Mischiefs intended to be remedied remain unremoved; and that a continuance of those Mischiefs is principally occasioned by the Neglect of the Magistracy and Constables concerned in the due execution of the Powers vested in them by those Laws.

We therefore earnestly request your Honour will be pleased to iſsue your Proclamation requiring and commanding the Magistrates and all other Officers for the several Counties adjoining the said Rivers to pay due Attention to the said Laws and exert their utmost Endeavours to enforce a faithful and strict Obedience to them.

Signed by Order of the House
Joseph Fox,
Speaker

September 27th. 1769

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Friday the 29th September 1769.

Present

The Honourable John Penn Esquire Lieutenant Governor &c.
Richard Peters Benjamin Chew } Esquires
James Tilghman

The Minutes of the Indian Conferences held last Month by Colonel Francis at Shamokin were read and ordered to be entered in the Council Books and the Secretary was directed to lay the same before the Aſsembly for their Perusal — The said Minutes are as follow, Vizt.

Minutes of a Conference held at Shamokin or Fort Augusta by Colonel Francis on the part of the Government of Pennsylvania with the Indians inhabiting in and near Shanango in order to Condole with and make a Present to Seneca George and his Relations on Account of the Death of Georges only Son who was shot some Time since by an unknown Person near the mouth of Middle-Creek in Susquehanna

Saturday August the 19th. 1769 a little before Noon Seneca George accompanied by the Conoy King named last Night by an Onandago Chief named Genquant and about 53 more Indians of different Tribes but chiefly Nanticokes and Conoys landed from their Boats and sent a Meſsage to Colonel Francis to know when they might speak to him who immediately returned Answer that in the Afternoon he would be glad to see his Brother Seneca George and the Friends and Brethren he had brought with him — Colonel Francis then prepared to receive the Indians and desired the Reverend Doctor Smith of Philadelphia who happened to come to the Fort about half an Hour before the Indians, to give his Aſsistance in taking the Minutes &c.

August the 19th in the Afternoon —

Present

Colonel Francis on the part of the Government
Reverend Doctor Smith
and about 50 Inhabitants on and near Susquehanna

Seneca George
Last Night the Conoy King
Genquant an Onendago
and 22 more Warriors and Young Men

Isaac Still, Interpreter

Seneca George speaks

Brother

You sent a Letter some Days since inviting me to this place. I invited my Brother Genquant one of the Onondagoes to come with me and likewise some of my Children of the Nanticokes and Conoys. I also found other Young Men waiting for me to come down, and now we are all here before you as if you was the Governor for you could not expect me to come alone

Brother,

We have met among ourselves this Day with many Tears, but now we see you our Tears begin to dry up a little and We are ready to hear what you have to say and you may appoint the Time as soon as you please and when you speak all of us will consider one with another what you say to us.

Brother,

I will speak one Word more. I desire you would stop all your strong Drink awhile for you and I can neither speak nor smoke together rightly if our young Men should get Drink at this Council fire kindled by the Governor at Shamokin.

Brother

You and I are Friends and know each other and you likewise very well know what the Custom is when the Governor meets his Brethren at any place where he appoints a Council Fire — Now you see your Brethren here and we desire you will give us something to eat, for this is always the Custom when We meet the Governor at a Council Fire — We have no more to say at this Time.

Colonel Francis was going to make some Reply and to expreſs his Pleasure at meeting his Brethren and to tell them that they should hear good Things from the Governor on Monday But Seneca George got up and desired Colonel Francis would not speak then it being better to consider what had been said to him till Monday. The Indians then went to their Camps and Provisions were sent to them. This Evening Joseph Shippen Esquire the Provincial Secretary arrived at the Fort.

Sunday

Sunday, August 20th 1769.

The Indians having understood that Doctor Smith was to have Divine Service to white People, assembled at the Fort, Seneca George sent Notice that his People worshipped the same God with the English, and would attend Divine Service, which they did accordingly with great Decency, and Isaac Still interpreted the Conclusion of the Discourse, which was particularly addressed to them.

Monday August 21st 1769

Present

Colonel Francis,	Seneca George,
Joseph Shippen, Esquire,	Last Night, the Conoy King,
Reverend Doctor Smith,	Genquant, the Onondago Chief,
Charles Stewart, Esquire,	and other Indians, as before.
and near 100 Inhabitants.	

Isaac Still, Interpreter,

Seneca George speaks,

Brother, and all of you my Brethren,

This Day We are all met here together, Some chief Men my Brothers are come with me, and some young Men, to this Council Fire, kindled by the Governor. You have sent for me to come from Shanango, and now I am come to hear my Brother, and I suppose you have something within your Heart to tell me.

Gives A String.

Colonel Francis then spoke, as follows,

Brother Seneca George, and all you my Brethren,

I am glad to see you here, and that you received the Letter I sent you, soon enough to meet me here, at the very Time I wished to see You. My Grief for what has happened has been equal to yours, but on seeing you here, in so friendly and good a Disposition, my Grief is now so much removed that I have been able to light this Council Fire, and to acquaint you with what is contained within the Governor's Heart, on this Occasion.

Gives A String.

Now Brethren, open your Ears and listen, — I am going to deliver to you what the Governor what the Governor desired me to speak to Seneca George, and his Friends, on this sad Occasion, — attend then Brethren, for it is now the Governor speaks.

"Brethren,

"I take this Opportunity by Colonel Francis to give you my
"kind and hearty Salutations and by this String I desire you will hearken to the

"the Meſsage I send you by him."

A String of Wampum

"Brethren,

"It is not above a Month ago that Colonel Francis came from Shamokin, on purpose to acquaint me of the Death of one of our Indian Brethren, and that the Man who was supposed to have committed the Crime was apprehended and secured in Lancaster Gaol.

"On this information I ordered the Man to be sent to the Gaol of this City, to be kept secure, till he can be tried.

"Brethren,

"Colonel Francis further acquainted me that, the Indians, who were in the Cabbin with our deceased Brother, at the time he was killed, were present when the Offender was taken, and were satisfied with Colonel Francis's Conduct in this Affair, and were kind enough to take a Meſsage from him, to give you an Account of what had been done, and to tell you he was hastening to Philadelphia, to lay the same before me, and would bring in a Month, or six Weeks, my Meſsage to you, on this Melancholy Occasion, and desired you to be at Shamokin, in Order to receive it.

"Brethren,

"Knowing that by Treaties between this Government and the Indians, We are obliged to inform each other of any accidents that happen, which may be likely to disturb the Peace subsisting between us, as soon as I had made myself acquainted with the Particulars attending this Matter, I lost no Time in sending an Account thereof to Sir William Johnson, that he might relate the real Truth, so far as was come to my Knowledge, to the Indians of the Six Nations, and aſsure them, that the Person apprehended, should be taken great Care of, and safely secured, and receive his Trial in the same Manner as if the Deceased had been a White Man, and by his Trial it will appear whether the Affair was accidental or designed.

"Brethren,

"We are sensible that whilst the Body of our deceased Brother lies above Ground, your Minds cannot be easy: We therefore, by these Strouds, bury his Body, and cover it so deep that your Eyes may never more see it.

Black Strouds.

"Brethren,

"With these Handkerchiefs We wipe away all the Tears which run down your Cheeks, and take the Sorrow from your Hearts, and desire you would grieve no more.

Handkerchiefs.

"Brethren,

"With this Belt We scrape up all the Blood that has "lain on the Ground, or may have stained the Bushes. — We collect them "together, and bury them under Ground, that neither your nor your friends Eyes "may more behold them, as you paſs and re-paſs the place where the accident "happened.

A Belt.

"Brethren,

"As We have now buried the Body of our deceased Brother, "We desire you will suffer no uneasineſs to remain in your Minds, that may "cause the least ill will towards your Brethren the English.

A Belt.

"Brethren,

"As you are the Relations of our deceased Brother, as a Token "of our Affection for you, and to comfort your Hearts, We desire you would "accept of this present of Goods."

Delivered the Goods.

(signed,) "John Penn."

Seneca George then speaks

Brother

Now I have heard what the Governor has to say to me on this Occasion, my Young Men and the Chiefs that are come with me have likewise heard it and are very glad that they have heard the Governor of Philadelphia speak. Now I will return to my Fire-place and to Morrow will give an Answer to what the Governor has said to us

Tuesday. August 22nd

The Indians sent Word they could not be ready to answer the Governors Meſsage till to morrow in the forenoon.

Wednesday. August 23d

Present

Colonel Francis
Doctor Smith
Charles Stewart Esquire
about 50 Inhabitants

Seneca George
Last Night
and other Indians as before

Being met Seneca George spoke as follows

Brother

We have met here on this good Day, and as the Governor of Philadelphia has sent you here to speak to me I shall look upon you as in the Governors room. I am glad to hear what my Brother the Governor has said, and so are also my young Men, and I doubt not your young Men are likewise as well pleased as our young Men are with what the Governor has said.

Brother,

I let you know I am not a King but I am a Captain of the six Nations — But here is a King [pointing to Last Night the Conoy King]

You will hear him speak good Things. His Words and mine are one.

Brother,

You may see that the Occasion which has called us to meet here, is not from a bad Spirit on our Part, but yours. The great and good Spirit put it into the Hearts of our Grandfathers and yours to lay strong Foundations for Peace with each other; We must follow what they have done and if We hide any-Thing in our Hearts from one another this great Spirit whom you call God Almighty will know it.

The Conoy King then spoke.

Brother,

I am really glad to see you at this Fire which the Governor has placed at Shamokin, and to hear what my Brother the Governor has said; and to see all these young Men that are come with you — My young Men are likewise all glad on the same Account.

A String 4 Rows.

Brother,

I now speak to the Governor by you Colonel Francis. I have put into my Heart what the Governor has said. My young Men have done the same. We all believe what the Governor has said to Colonel Francis has really come from his Heart. I will therefore now open my Heart and you shall hear very good Things.

2 Strings 4 Rows.

Brother

I am well pleased the Governor takes this Method to bury our Grief under Ground. I need not repeat what you said to us. I am glad you have wholly wiped away that Stain from the Face of the Earth, and I now assure you I will look on you my Brothers as I used to do and think well of you.

Brother,

As I told you we are all glad to hear our Brother the Governor — But I assure you Brother I do not know what to do in the Affair we are met about. I have considered this sad Breach and should know what to do in it if any of my People had committed the like against any of yours.

Brother

You know best how to manage such of our People as have been overcome by the Evil Spirit and therefore I leave this Matter wholly to you

a Belt 7 Rows

Brother

Let me now speak one Word to my Brother the Governor and to you Colonel Francis. I would have my Brother the Governor be strong to hold fast that good Friendship whereof our Grandfathers laid fast Foundations when you came first into this Country — Sir William Johnson is but lately come — But We had in old Time a very firm Peace and you and I used always then to speak to one another

Now as I said Brother We then laid firm Foundation for Peace and this was one great Article of that Peace—that We should have Pity on our young Men and also our Women and Children—Because We all came at first from one Woman as you may easily know by this mark, "that our "little Children when born have all the same Shapes and Limbs as yours "altho' they be of a different Colour."— Wherefore Brother I would have you be strong and in good earnest to preserve this our antient friendship so that our young Men where-ever they meet on a Journey or hunting about in the Woods may always be glad to see one another.

Brother

There was also another Mark in this our old Friendship that if We had but one Loaf of Bread when We met each other in the Woods We would cut it in two and divide it one with another—Let us all then cast up our Eyes to the great good Being to bless our Endeavours to preserve this our antient Friendship.

A Belt, 8 Rows.

Brother

You know that our Grand-fathers made a Road between each other which passes by my Door and reaches to Onondago. We have now kindled a Council Fire at Shamokin. Let us both then be strong, that our young Men Women and Children may pass and re-pass and always be glad to meet one another at the hunt in the Woods.

Brother

You may perhaps hear bad Stories from other Nations, but I would not have you listen to them but let you and I still hold fast the antient Friendship.

Brother

You and I are Brothers—The Nations to which I belong, the Nanticokes and Conoys never yet since the beginning of the World pulled one Scalp nor even one Hair from your Heads—And this I say gives us a Right to call ourselves your Brothers—Although you have done me some Hurt I have never yet cast my Eye upon that but have always looked stedfastly to our antient Friendship.

Brother,

Now we have healed this sad Breach and you see all my young Men here are satisfied it is so made up, and I hope your young Men are also pleased—But Brother I would have you tell your young Men never to make the least Breach of our Friendship again and I will tell our young Men the same.

A Belt, 7 Rows.

Brother

Now you have heard all your Brothers had to say to you on this good Day. There is as I told you a Council Fire at Shanango which is the Door of the Six Nations. When I go home all your Brethren shall know what you have said and Sir William Johnson shall also know it.

Brother;

We the Nanticokes and Conoys have wiped away all the Grief from the Eyes of our great Warrior Seneca George. We shew you this Belt wherewith we joined you in wiping his Eyes.

Brother, Last Fall Sir William Johnson and all the Governors kindled a Council Fire at Fort Stanwix. He sent for all his Indian Brethren as far as Allegany to meet at this Council Fire. It was his Business when they met to find Provision for them and he did so. But they killed one six Years old Steer for me, and I have had no satisfaction for it. If you think proper to consider this matter and allow me satisfaction I shall think well of it.

Brother,

To Morrow I intend to leave You. I was in hopes you would have sent me a Squaw to keep me warm at Night. Perhaps you have one to keep you warm; but as you did not send me one, I must go home to my own as fast as I can. But you know the Custom is that you must give me a little Bread to eat on the Way.

Colonel Francis then spoke as follows.

Brothers Seneca George, Last Night and all you my Brothers,

I am really rejoiced to hear all the good things you have said and to find that the Governors Message to you with his small Present of Goods have wiped away all the Tears from your Eyes, and confirmed in your Hearts the old Friendship and good Will you have to your Brothers the English. All who are present with me rejoice on the same Account. You see I have caused to be written down on Paper all the good Things you have said that I may send them directly to the Governor who will put them in his Heart and remember them the first Time you speak together.

Brother,

As to what you say about a Squaw, I have really none here; We keep all ours in Philadelphia, and We are as desirous to get home as you are. I am sorry that We have so little Provisions here; But you shall this very Evening have all that I can get for you. I will kill one of our best Cattle for you. I will send you all the Flour I have left to make a Cake on your way, and I will give some Powder and Shot to your young Men to kill a little Deer to eat with your Cake as you go along. I shall likewise send you a little Walking Stick [The Indian Phrase for Rum] and am sorry I cannot make it long enough for a selling Pole: But really our Rum Keggs begin to run very low — however I will make the Stick as long and strong as I can —

Brother Last Night I will consider what you say about your Steer and look what there is in my Purse when I go home to my Lodgings from this Council Fire.

Colonel Francis having finished the above which was received with great Chearfulness and many Signs of Approbation by the Indians M^r. Frederick Weiser desired Colonel Francis that he would be pleased to deliver in his Name the following short Speech to Seneca George.

Brother Seneca George,

Now the Business of the Governor is finished — the Son of your old Brother and Friend Conrad Weiser desires to speak a few Words to you. Myself and all the Children of Conrad have had great grief and many Tears for the unhappy Death of your Son, and our Tears have run down our Cheeks in greater Abundance because a Cousen of ours the Sister's Son of our Father Conrad has been suspected of doing the Mischief. — He is soon to be tried by the English Laws, and if he should be proved Guilty, which we hope he may not be, We are willing he should suffer the same Punishments as if he had committed the Crime against a White Man.

Brother,

This Matter hath grieved and surprized us greatly for neither the Man who is said to have done this nor any of our Family have ever had any Difference with our Indian Brethren and Time will shew whether this Man is guilty or not; and as We do not wish to skreen him from Justice We desire you will not entertain in your Hearts any Ill-Will against any of the Family or Children of your old Friend and Brother Conrad Weiser on account of this one Man who if he is guilty must have been carried away by a very evil Spirit towards the Indians and different from the Spirit of all his Family. As a mark of our Love to you I who am the eldest Son of your old Friend Conrad Weiser desire you will accept this small Present from his Family to wipe all Tears from your Eyes.

A Present from M^r. Weiser.

Seneca George having sat after this Speech 3 or 4 Minutes in a deep silence with his Eyes fixed on the Ground and Tears visibly flowing from them got up and spoke as follows.

Brother,

I have really been pleased with what the Governor has spoken by you Colonel Francis for making up this sad affair. Now as to what has been said by the Son of Conrad Weiser, I am glad to see one of his Sons and to hear him mention a little of the old Friendship and Love that was between us and our Brother his Father. — Yes, old Conrad Weiser was indeed my Brother and Friend. — He was a Councillor of the six Nations, and knew all that passed among them, or as was in their Hearts. I am very glad the Tears have flowed from the Eyes of his Children, as they have done from mine, on account of this unhappy Affair which has certainly been a very great Grief to me — for he that is lost was a Son that lay near my Heart — He was all the Child I had; and now I am old the loſs of him hath almost entirely cut away my Heart — But I am yet pleased my Brother Weiser the Son of my old Friend has taken this Method to dry my Tears. I aſsure my Brother Weiser this Matter shall be remembered no more against his Family to their Hurt, but I will look upon it that an Evil Spirit got into the Mind of the Person who did it. —

All the while Seneca George was delivering the above he kept advancing still nearer and nearer to the Table where Colonel Francis Mr Weiser and the other Gentlemen sat and his Action and whole behaviour were surprizingly great. That part especially where he spoke of his Son was understood, even before interpreted, by the Tone and manner in which it was delivered — When he came to the last part where he declared he had no Ill-will to the Family of the Weisers he sprung forward with a noble Air of Forgiveneſs — and shaking Mr Weiser by the Hand "I have (said he) no ill-will to you Mr Weiser. None to you Colonel Francis. Nor any to you Father (so he called Doctor Smith) nor any to you (meaning Mr Stuart) and shaking every one by the Hand, then spreading out his Arms and turning quite round to all the Company, "Nor have I any Ill-will to any of you my Brethren the English."

That Manly Spirit of Forgiveneſs and Reconciliation which Seneca George shewed on this Occasion by his Looks Gesture and whole Action made some of those at the Table cry out as he rose up holding out his hand to them "This is noble"; for here his his Speech stood in need of no Interpretation. —

Here the Conference ended.

After the Conference, James Nanticoke, who had been obliged to return home, sent this Meſsage by James Curtis, — "That he requested his "Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania, not to give any Papers to any young "Nanticokes that might desire to go to see their Lands in Maryland, unleſs "they should bring some Token from him and John Curtis; for that their "young Men had no buſineſs in Maryland as they had agreed to sell "their Lands to the Governor." —

A Conference with the Delawares, inhabiting the Big Island, and West Branch of Susquehanna.

During the Conference with Seneca George and his Friends

Colonel Francis had great uneaſineſs on account of the Delaware Chief Newaleka and about 42 of his Friends who had come down the West Branch on a Rumour that there was to be a General Treaty at Shamokin and that the Governor was to be there. The Nanticokes and Conoys refused to admit them into the Conference and said they had no buſineſs with it while the others complained that they had waited many Days lost part of their Hunting Season and were now starving for Hunger.

Colonel Francis sent Isaac Still to bring three or four of their Chiefs to a private Conference who being come told him that since they could not see the Governor nor hear from him they intended to proceed to Philadelphia. Colonel Francis told them the Governor was not at Philadelphia but gone on a long Journey but that he would carry any Meſsage they had to the Governor; and that they might not be wholly disappointed he would give them some Provisions and a little Walking Stick to help them back to their Hunting. The Chief then desired Colonel Francis to carry this Meſsage, viz^t.

"That they would return home and hunt a while for a few Skins to make a pair of Breeches for the Governor which they would bring down to him in the Fall to have a Talk with him according to old Custom for they now longed to see him and had many things to say."

It was therefore found neceſsary to give them some Flour &c. and to get them away as well pleased as poſsible for the Inhabitants became apprehensive that they would kill Cattle or do some other Hurt for want of Provisions and on account of the Disappointment in their Journey.

The Addreſs from the Aſsembly of the 27th Instant was read and the Governor sent the following verbal Meſsage to the House by the Secretary in Answer thereto.

Sir,

The Governor commands me to acquaint the House, that he will iſsue a Proclamation to enforce the several Laws for the preservation of Fish &c. agreeable to their Request of the 27th Instant.

September 29th 1769.

The Governor then laid before the Board the five following Bills sent up by the House of Aſsembly for his concurrence, viz^t.

An Act for the support of the Government of this Province, and Payment of the Public Debts.

An Act for the relief of John Galbreath, a languishing Prisoner in the Goal of Chester, with respect to the imprisonment of his Person.

An

To the Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, &ca.

The Address of the Representatives of the Freemen of the said Province in General Assembly met.

"May it please your Honour:

"We, the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of Pennsylvania, in Assembly met, beg leave to represent, that taking under our Consideration the several Laws lately passed for the Preservation of the Fish in the Rivers Delaware, Susquehanna, and Schuylkill, and making the last mentioned Navigable, find, notwithstanding the salutary Provisions in the said Laws, a large Number of Wears, Dams, Baskets, and other Obstructions have been, and daily continue to be erected in the said Rivers, whereby the good Intentions of the Legislature are rendered ineffectual, and the Mischiefs intended to be remedied remain unremoved, and that a continuance of those Mischiefs is principally occasioned by the Neglect of the Magistracy and Constables concerned in the due execution of the Powers vested in them by those Laws.

"We therefore earnestly request your Honour will be pleased to issue your Proclamation requiring and commanding the Magistrates and all other Officers for the several Counties adjoining the said Rivers, to pay due Attention to the said Laws, and exert their utmost Endeavours to enforce a faithful and strict Obedience to them.

"Signed by Order of the House,

"JOSEPH FOX, *Speaker.*

"September 27th, 1769."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Friday the 29th September, 1769.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Richard Peters, Benjamin Chew, } Esquires.
James Tilghman,

The Minutes of the Indian Conferences held last Month by Colonel Francis at Shamokin, were read and ordered to be entered in the Council Books, and the Secretary was directed to lay the same before the Assembly for their Perusal. The said Minutes are as follow, viz^{t}.

"*Minutes of a Conference held at Shamokin or Fort Augusta, by Colonel Francis on the part of the Government of Pennsylvania, with the Indians inhabiting in and near Shanango, in order to Condole with and make a Present to Seneca George and his Relations, on Account of the Death of George's only Son, who was Shot some Time since by an unknown Person, near the Mouth of Middle-Creek on Susquehanna.*

Saturday, August the 19th, 1769, a little before Noon Seneca George, accompanied by the Conoy King, named last Night by an Onandago Chief named Genquant, and about 53 more Indians of different Tribes, but chiefly Nanticokes and Conoys, landed from their Boats and sent a Message to Colonel Francis to know when they might speak to him, who immediately returned Answer that in the Afternoon he would be glad to see his Brother Seneca George and the Friends and Brethren he had brought with him. Colonel Francis then prepared to receive the Indians, and desired the Reverend Doctor Smith of Philadelphia, who happened to come to the Fort about half an Hour before the Indians, to give his assistance in taking the Minutes, &ca.

August the 19th, in the Afternoon.

PRESENT:

Colonel Francis, on the part of the Government,	Seneca George,
Reverend Doctor Smith,	Last Night, the Conoy King,
and about 50 Inhabitants, on and near Susquehanna.	Genquant, an Onondago,
	and 22 more Warriors, and Young Men.

Isaac Still, Interpreter.

Seneca George speaks:

"Brother:

"You sent a Letter some Days since inviting me to this Place I invited my Brother Genquant, one of the Onondagoes, to come with me, and likewise some of my Children of the Nanticokes and Conoys. I also found other Young Men waiting for me to come down; and now we are all here before you, as if you was the Governor, for you could not expect me to come alone.

"Brother:

"We have met among ourselves this Day with many Tears, but now we see you our Tears begin to dry up a little, and we are ready to hear what you have to say, and you may appoint the Time as soon as you please, and when you speak, all of us will consider one with another what you say to us.

"Brother:

"I will speak one Word more, I desire you would stop all your Strong Drink a while, for you and I can neither speak nor smoke together rightly if our young Men should get Drink at this Council-fire kindled by the Governor at Shamokin.

"Brother:

"You and I are Friends and know each other, and you likewise very well know what the Custom is when the Governor meets his Brethren at any place where he appoints a Council Fire. Now you see your Brethren here, and we desire you will give us something to eat, for this is always the Custom when We meet the Governor at a Council Fire. We have no more to say at this Time."

Colonel Francis was going to make some Reply, and to express his Pleasure at Meeting his Brethren, and to tell them that they should hear good Things from the Governor on Monday, But Seneca George got up and desired Colonel Francis would not speak then, it being better to consider what had been said to him till Monday. The Indians then went to their Camp, and Provisions were sent to them. This Evening Joseph Shippen, Esquire, the Provincial Secretary, arrived at the Fort.

Sunday, August 20, 1769.

The Indians having understood that Doctor Smith was to have Divine Service to White People assembled at the Fort, Seneca George sent Notice that his People worshipped the same God with the English, and would attend Divine Service, which they did accordingly, with great Decency, and Isaac Still interpreted the Conclusion of the Discourse, which was particularly addressed to them.

Monday, August 21st, 1769.

PRESENT:

Colonel Francis,	Seneca George,
Joseph Shippen, Esquire,	Last Night, the Conoy King,
Reverend Doctor Smith,	Genquant, the Onondago Chief,
Charles Stewart, Esquire,	and other Indians, as before.
and near 100 Inhabitants.	

Isaac Still, Interpreter.

Seneca George speaks:

"Brother, and all of you my Brethren:

"This Day We are all met here together. Some chief Men, my Brothers, are come with me, and some young Man, to this Council

Fire kindled by the Governor. You have sent for me to come from Shanango, and now I am come to hear my Brother, and I suppose you have something within your Heart to tell me."

Gives a String.

Colonel Francis then spoke as follows:

"Brother Seneca George and all you, my Brethren:

"I am glad to see you here, and that you received the Letter I sent you soon enough to meet me here at the very Time I wished to see You. My Grief for what has happened has been equal to yours, but on seeing you here in so friendly and good a Disposition, my Grief is now so much removed that I have been able to light this Council Fire, and to acquaint you with what is contained within the Governor's Heart on this Occasion.

Gives a String.

"Now Brethren open your Ears and listen. I am going to deliver to you what the Governor desired me to speak to Seneca George and his Friends on this sad Occasion. Attend then Brethren, for it is now the Governor speaks.

"Brethren:

"I take this Opportunity by Colonel Francis to give you my kind and hearty salutations, and by this String I desire you will hearken to the Message I send you by him.

A String of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"It is not above a Month ago that Colonel Francis came from Shamokin, on purpose to acquaint me of the Death of one of our Indian Brethren, and that the Man who was supposed to have committed the Crime was apprehended and secured in Lancaster Gaol.

"On this information, I ordered the Man to be sent to the Gaol of this City, to be kept secure till he can be tried.

"Brethren:

"Colonel Francis further acquainted me that the Indians who were in the Cabbin with our deceased Brother at the Time he was killed, were present when the Offender was taken, and were satisfied with Colonel Francis's Conduct in this Affair, and were kind enough to take a Message from him to give you an Account of what had been done, and to tell you he was hastening to Philadelphia to lay the same before me, and would bring in a Month or six Weeks my Message to you on this Melancholy Occasion, and desired you to be at Shamokin in Order to receive it.

"Brethren:

"Knowing that by Treaties between this Government and the Indians, We are obliged to inform each other of any accidents that happen which may be likely to disturb the Peace subsisting between us; as soon as I had made myself acquainted with the Particulars attending this Matter, I lost no Time in sending an Account thereof to Sir William Johnson, that he might relate the real Truth, so far as was come to my knowledge, to the Indians of the Six Nations, and assure them that the person apprehended should be taken great Care of and safely secured, and receive his Trial in the same Manner as if the Deceased had been a White Man; and by his Trial it will appear whether the Affair was accidental or designed.

"Brethren:

"We are sensible that whilst the Body of our deceased Brother lies above Ground your Minds cannot be easy. We therefore, by these Strouds, bury this Body and cover it so deep that your Eyes may never more see it.

Black Strouds.

"Brethren:

"With these Handkerchiefs We wipe away all the Tears which run down your Cheeks, and take the Sorrow from your Hearts, and desire you would grieve no more.

Handkerchiefs.

"Brethren:

"With this Belt We scrape up all the Blood that has lain on the Ground or may have stained the Bushes. We collect them together and bury them under Ground, that neither your nor your friends Eyes may more behold them, as you pass and re-pass the place where the accident happened.

A Belt.

"Brethren:

"As we have now buried the Body of our deceased Brother, We desire you will suffer no uneasiness to remain in your Minds, that may cause the least ill will towards your Brethren, the English.

A Belt.

"Brethren:

"As you are the Relations of our deceased Brother, as a Token of our Affection for you and to comfort your Hearts, We desire you would accept of this present of goods.".

Delivered the Goods.

(signed) "JOHN PENN."

Seneca George then Speaks:

"Brother:

"Now I have heard what the Governor has to say to me on this Occasion; My Young Men and the Chiefs that are come with me have likewise heard it, and are very glad that they have heard the Governor of Philadelphia speak. Now I will return to my Fire-place, and to-Morrow will give an Answer to what the Governor has said to us."

Tuesday, August 22d.

The Indians sent Word they could not be ready to answer the Governor's Message till to-morrow in the forenoon.

Wednesday, August 23d.

PRESENT:

Colonel Francis,
Doctor Smith,
Charles Stewart, Esquire,
about 50 Inhabitants.

Seneca George,
Last Night,
and other Indians, as before.

Being met, Seneca George spoke as follows:

"Brother:

"We have met here on this good Day, and as the Governor of Philadelphia has sent you here to speak to me, I shall look upon you as in the Governor's room. I am glad to hear what my Brother the Governor has said, and so are also my young Men, and I doubt not your young Men are likewise as well pleased as our young Men are with what the Governor has said.

"Brother:

"I let you know I am not a King, but I am a Captain of the six Nations. But here is a King, [pointing to last Night, the Conoy King], You will hear him him speak good Things. His Words and mine are one.

"Brother:

"You may see that the Occasion which has called us to meet here, is not from a bad Spirit on our Part, but yours. The great and good Spirit put it into the Hearts of our Grandfathers and yours to lay strong Foundations for Peace with each other. We must follow what they have done, and if We hide any Thing in our Hearts from one another, this great Spirit whom you call God Almighty, will know it."

The Conoy King then speaks:

"Brother:

"I am really glad to see you at this Fire which the Governor has placed at Shamokin, and to hear what my Brother, the Governor, has said, and to see all these young Men that are come with you. My young Men are likewise all glad on the same Account.

A String, 4 Rows.

"Brother:

"I now speak to the Governor by you, Colonel Francis. I have put into my Heart what the Governor has said. My young Men have done the same. We all believe what the Governor has said to

Colonel Francis has really come from his Heart. I will, therefore, now open my Heart, and you shall hear very good Things.

2d String, 4 Rows.

"Brother:

"I am well pleased the Governor takes this Method to bury our Grief under Ground. I need not repeat what you said to us. I am glad you have wholly wiped away that Stain from the Face of the Earth, and I now assure you I will look on you, my Brothers, as I used to do, and think well of you.

"Brother:

"As I told you, we are all glad to hear our Brother, the Governor. But, I assure you, Brother, I do not know what to do on the Affair we are met about. I have considered this sad Breach, and should know what to do in it if any of my People had committed the like against any of yours.

"Brother:

"You know best how to manage such of our People as have been overcome by the Evil Spirit, and therefore I leave this Matter wholly to you.

A Belt, 7 Rows.

"Brother:

"Let me now speak one Word to my Brother, the Governor, and to you, Colonel Francis. I would have my Brother, the Governor, be strong to hold fast that good Friendship whereof our Grandfathers laid fast Foundations when you came first into this Country. Sir William Johnson is but lately come. But We had in old Time a very firm Peace, and you and I used always then to speak to one another.

"Now as I said, Brother, We then laid firm Foundation for Peace, and this was one great article of that Peace, that we should have Pity on our young Men and also our Women and Children.—Because We all came at first from one Woman, as you may easily know by this mark, 'that our little Children when born have all the same Shapes and Limbs as yours, altho' they be of a different Colour.' Wherefore, Brother, I would have you be strong and in good earnest to preserve this our antient friendship, so that our young Men where-ever they meet on a Journey, or hunting about in the Woods, may always be glad to see one another.

"Brother:

"There was also another Mark in this our old Friendship, that if We had but one Loaf of Bread when we met each other in the Woods, We would cut it in two and divide it one with another.—Let us all then cast up our Eyes to the great good Being to bless our Endeavours to preserve this our antient Friendship.

A Belt, 8 Rows.

"Brother:

"You know that our Grand-fathers made a Road between each other, which passes by my Door and reaches to Onondago. We have now kindled a Council Fire at Shamokin. Let us both then be strong, that our young Men, Women and Children, may pass and re-pass and always be glad as they meet one another as they hunt in the Woods.

"Brother:

"You may perhaps hear bad Stories from other Nations, but I would not have you listen to them, but let you and I still hold fast the antient Friendship.

"Brother:

"You and I are Brothers. The Nations to which I belong, the Nanticokes and Conoys, never yet since the beginning of the World, pulled one Scalp nor even one Hair from your Heads, and this I say gives us a Right to call ourselves your Brothers. Although you have done me some Hurt I have never yet cast my Eye upon that, but have always looked stedfastly to our antient Friendship.

"Brother:

"Now we have healed this sad Breach, and you see all my young men here are satisfied it is so made up, and I hope your young Men are also pleased. But Brother I would have you tell your young Men never to make the least Breach of our Friendship again, and I will tell our young Men the same.

A Belt, 7 Rows.

"Brother:

"Now you have heard all your Brothers had to say to you on this good Day. There is, as I told you, a Council Fire at Shanango, which is the Door of the Six Nations. When I go home all your Brethren shall know what you have said, and Sir William Johnson shall also know it.

"Brother:

"We the Nanticokes and Conoys, have wiped away all the Grief from the Eyes of our great Warrior, Seneca George. We shew you this Belt, wherewith we joined you in wiping his Eyes.

"Brother:

"Last fall Sir William Johnson and all the Governors kindled a Council Fire at Fort Stanwix. He sent for all his Indian Brethern, as far as Allegeany, to meet at this Council Fire. It was his Business when they met, to find Provision for them, and he did so. But they killed one six Years' old Steer for me, and I had no Satisfaction for it. If you think proper to consider this matter and allow me satisfaction, I shall think well of it.

"Brother:

"To-Morrow I intend to leave you. I was in hopes you would have sent me a *Squaw* to keep me warm at Night. Perhaps you have one to keep you warm, but as you did not send me one, I must go home to my own as fast as I can. But you know the Custom is that you must give me a little Bread to eat on the way."

Colonel Francis then spoke as follows:

"Brothers, Seneca George, Last Night, and all you, my Brethren:

"I am really rejoiced to hear all the good things you have said, and to find that the Governor's Message to you, with his small Present of Goods, have wiped away all the tears from your Eyes, and confirmed in your Hearts the old Friendship and good will you have to your Brothers, the English. All who are present with me rejoice on the same account. You see I have caused to be written down on Paper all the good things you have said, that I may send them directly to the Governor, who will put them in his Heart, and remember them the first time you speak together.

"Brother:

"As to what you say about a *Squaw*, I have really none here. We keep all ours in Philadelphia, and we are as desirous to get home as you are. I am sorry that we have so little Provisions here, But you shall this very evening have all that I can get for you. I will kill one of our best Cattle for you. I will send you all the Flour I have left to make a cake on your way, and I will give some Powder and shot to your young Men to kill a little Deer to eat with your Cake as you go along. I shall likewise send you a little *Walking Stick*, [The Indian Phrase for Rum] and am sorry I cannot make it long enough for a setting Pole, But really our Rum Keggs begin to run very low; however, I will make the stick as long and strong as I can.

"Brother Last Night:

"I will consider what you say about your Steer, and look what there is in my Purse when I go home to my lodgings from the this Council Fire."

Colonel Francis having finished the above, which was received with great Cheerfulness and many Signs of Approbation by the Indians, Mr. Frederick Weiser desired Colonel Francis that he would be pleased to deliver in his name the following short speech to Seneca George.

"Brother Seneca George:

"Now the Business of the Governor is finished, the Son of your old Brother and Friend CONRAD WEISER, desires to speak a few words to you. Myself and all the Children of Conrad have had great Grief and many Tears for the unhappy Death of your Son, and our Tears have run down our Cheeks in greater abundance because a Cousin of ours, the Sister's Son of our Father Conrad, has been suspected of doing the Mischief. He is soon to be tried by the English Laws, and if he should be proved Guilty, which we hope he may not be, We are willing he should suffer the same Punishment as if he had committed the Crime against a White Man.

"Brother:

This Matter hath grieved and surprized us greatly, for neither the man who is said to have done this, nor any of our Family, have ever had any difference with our Indian Brethren, and Time will shew whether this man is guilty or not; and as we do not wish to skreen him from Justice, We desire you will not entertain in your Hearts any ill will against any of the Family or children of your old Friend and Brother Conrad Weiser, on account of this one man, who, if he is guilty, must have been carried away by a very evil spirit towards the Indians, and different from the spirit of all his Family. As a mark of our love to you, I who am the eldest Son of your old friend Conrad Weiser, desire you will accept this small Present from his Family, to wipe all Tears from your Eyes."

A Present from Mr. Weiser:

Seneca George having sat after this Speech 3 or 4 minutes in a deep silence, with his Eyes fixed on the Ground; and Tears visibly flowing from them, got up and spoke as follows:

"Brother:

"I have really been pleased with what the Governor has spoken by you, Colonel Francis, for making up this sad affair. Now as to what has been said by the Son of Conrad Weiser, I am glad to see one of his Sons, and to hear him mention a little of the old Friendship and Love that was between us and our Brother his Father.—Yes, old Conrad Weiser was indeed my Brother and Friend. He was a Councillor of the Six Nations, and knew all that passed among them or was in their Hearts. I am very glad the Tears have flowed from the Eyes of his Children, as they have done from mine, on account of this unhappy affair, which has certainly been a very great Grief to me—for he that is lost was a Son that lay near my Heart. He was all the Child I had; and now I am old, the loss of him hath almost entirely cut away my Heart. But I am yet pleased my Brother Weiser, the Son of my old Friend, has taken this Method to dry my Tears.

"I assure my Brother Weiser this matter shall be remembered no more against his Family to their Hurt, but I will look upon it that an Evil Spirit got into the mind of the Person who did it."

All the while Seneca George was delivering the above, he kept advancing still nearer and nearer to the Table where Colonel Francis, Mr. Weiser and the other Gentlemen sat, and his *action* and whole behaviour were surprizingly great. That part especially, where he spoke of his Son, was understood even before interpreted, by the tone and manner in which it was delivered. When he came to the last part, where he declared he had no Ill-will to the Family of the Weisers, he sprang forward with a noble air of Forgiveness—and shaking Mr. Weiser by the Hand, "I have [said he] no ill-will to you Mr. Weiser. None to you Colonel Francis. Nor any to you Father, (so he called Doctor Smith) nor any to you (meaning Mr. Stewart)," and shaking every one by the Hand, then spreading out his arms and turning quite round to all the Company, "nor have I any ill-will to any of you my Brethren the English."

That manly Spirit of Forgiveness and Reconciliation which Seneca George showed on this Occasion, by his Looks, Gesture, and whole Action, made some of those at the Table cry out as he ran up, holding out his hand to them, "*This is Noble*," for here his Speech stood in need of no Interpretation.

Here the Conference ended.

After the Conference, James Nanticoke, who had been obliged to return home, sent this Message by James Curtis; "That he requested his Brother, the Governor of Pennsylvania, not to give any Passes to any young Nanticokes that might desire to go to see their Lands in Maryland, unless they should bring some Token from him and John Curtis, for that their young men had no Business in Maryland, as they had agreed to sell their Lands to the Governor."

A Conference with the Delawares inhabiting the Big Island, and West Branch of Susquehanna.

During the Conference with Seneca George and his Friends, Colonel Francis had great uneasiness on account of the Delaware Chief *New-Aleka*, and about 42 of his Friends, who had come down the West Branch, on a Rumour that there was to be a General Treaty at Shamokin, and that the Governor was to be there. The Nanticokes and Conoys refused to admit them into the Conference, and said they had no Business with it, while the others complained that they had waited many Days, lost part of their Hunting Season, and were now Starving for Hunger.

Colonel Francis sent Isaac Still to bring three or four of their Chiefs to a private Conference, who being come, told him that since they could not see the Governor, nor hear from him, they intended to proceed to Philadelphia. Colonel Francis told them the Governor was not at Philadelphia, but gone on a long Journey, but that he would carry any Message they had to the Governor, and that they might not be wholly disappointed, he would give them some Provisions, and a little walking-stick, to help them back to their Hunting. The Chief then desired Colonel Francis to carry this Message, Viz^{t}:

"That they would return home and Hunt a while for a few Skins to make a pair of Breeches for the Governor, which they would bring down to him in the Fall, to have a Talk with him, according to Old Custom, for they now longed to see him, and had many things to say."

It was therefore found necessary to give them some Flour, &c^a and to get them away as well pleased as possible, for the Inhabitants became apprehensive that they would kill Cattle, or do some other Hurt, for want of Provisions, and on account of the Disappointment in their Journey.

The Address from the Assembly of the 27th Instant was read, and the Governor sent the following Verbal Message to the House by the Secretary, in Answer thereto.

"Sir:

"The Governor commands me to acquaint the House that he will issue a Proclamation, to enforce the several Laws for the preservation of Fish, &ca., agreeable to their Request of the 27th Instant.

"September 29th, 1769."

The Governor then laid before the Board the five following Bills, sent up by the House of Assembly for his concurrence, Viz^{t}:

"An Act for the support of the Government of this Province, and Payment of the Public Debts."

"An Act for the relief of John Galbreath, a languishing Prisoner in the Goal of Chester, with respect to the imprisonment of his Person."

"An Act to continue the act entituled 'An Act to enable the Commissioners hereinafter named, to settle the accompts of the Managers, and to Sue for and recover from Several Persons such Sums of Money as are now due and unpaid on account of a Lottery set up and drawn, for erecting a House of Worship at the Town of Carlisle, &c^{a}.'"

"An Act for the Relief of John Relfe and Abraham Howell, Prisoners in the Goal of Philadelphia, with respect to the imprisonment of their Persons."

"An Act for raising, by way of Lottery, the Sum of £3543, 15s, 0d, one Moiety or half part for erecting a Bridge over Conestoga Creek, where the Road crosses the same, leading from Philadelphia to Lancaster; and the other Moiety for paving the Streets of Lancaster, the Distance of the first Squares from the Court House."

The said Bills being read and considered, the Board advised the Governor to return the first four to the Assembly with his assent; And as the King had lately sent his Royal Instructions to the Governor forbidding the passing any more Bills for raising Money by Lottery Bills but on certain Conditions, The Board were of Opinion that the present Lottery Bill should be returned, with a Verbal Message refusing his assent thereto, and setting forth the Reasonsfor the same, as they were expressed in a Report of a Committee of the Privy Council to His Majesty, respecting Lottery Bills to be passed in the Colonies. The following Verbal Message was accordingly drawn up at the Table and sent down to the House with the Bill, viz^{t}:

A Verbal Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Sir:

"The Governor returns the Bill entituled 'An Act for raising by way of Lottery, the Sum of £3543, 15s, 0d, &ca., and commands me to inform the House That he has lately been honoured with His Majesty's Orders, by advice of the Privy Council, strictly 'enjoining him on no pretence whatever, to give his Consent to any future Act for raising any Sum or Sums of Money by Lottery, without previously writing to know his Majesty's Pleasure therein, and fully stating the several Reasons which may appear to him to make the passing such Act adviseable,' and that in obedience to this Order, he is under the necessity of refusing his assent to this Bill.

" September 29th, 1769."

Council Chamber, Saturday, 11 O'clock, A. M., September 30th, 1769.

The Governor having yesterday received a Message from the Assembly, requesting him to acquaint the House when he would be pleased to pass the Bills he had agreed to, and having appointed the present Time for that purpose, sent a Message to the House by the Secretary, requiring their Attendance in the Council Chamber, that the Bills which had received his Assent might be enacted into Laws.

The whole House attended accordingly, and the Speaker presented to the Governor the four following Bills, which the Governor was pleased to pass, and then His Honour signed a Warrant for affixing the Great Seal thereto, and appointed Mr. Tilghman and the Secretary to accompany two Members of Assembly to see them Sealed and deposited in the Rolls Office, Viz^{t}:

1. "An Act for the Support of the Government of this Province, and Payment of the Public Debts."

2. "An Act for the relief of John Relfe and Abraham Howell, Prisoners in the Goal of Philadelphia, with respect to the Imprisonment of their Persons."

3. "An Act for the relief of John Galbreath, a Prisoner in the Goal of Chester, with respect to the Imprisonment of his Person."

4. "An Act to continue the act entituled 'An Act to enable the Commissioners hereinafter named, to settle the Accompts of the Managers, and to sue for and recover Several Sums of Money now due and unpaid on account of a Lottery set up and drawn for erecting a House of Worship at the Town of Carlisle, under the Pastoral Care of the Reverend John Steel."

The Speaker then presented to the Governor, on behalf of the House, an Order on the Treasurer for £500, in part of His Honour's Support for the present Year, for which the Governor returned the House his Thanks.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Thursday 5th October, 1769.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Benjamin Chew, } Esquires.
James Tilghman, }

The Governor laid before the Board the Returns of Sheriffs and Coroners for the Counties of Philadelphia, Chester, Bucks, Lancaster, Northampton, Berks, and New Castle, which being duly considered, the following Persons were appointed and Commissionated as the Sheriffs and Coroners for their respective Counties, Vizt:

Joseph Redman,	Sheriff,	Philadelphia City and County.	
Caleb Cash,	Coroner,		
Jesse Maris,	Sheriff,	Chester	County.
Joseph Gibbons, Junior,	Coroner,		
Joseph Ellicott,	Sheriff,	Bucks	Do.
James Wallice,	Coroner,		
James Webb, Junior,	Sheriff,	Lancaster	Do.
Adam Rigart,	Coroner,		
John Jennings,	Sheriff,	Northampton	Do.
William Ledlie,	Coroner,		
Jacob Shoemaker,	Sheriff,	Berks	Do.
James Whitehead, Junior,	Coroner,		
Thomas Duff,	Sheriff,	New Castle	Do.
Henry Vining,	Coroner,		

A Draught of a Proclamation being prepared by Order of the Governor, in consequence of the Assembly's Request of the 27th Ultimo, for enforcing a due Obedience to certain Laws passed by the Legislatures of the Provinces of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New Jersey, for the Preservation of the Fish in the Rivers Delaware, Schuylkill, Susquehanna, and the Lehigh, the same was laid before the Board read and approved, and ordered to be printed in the Pennsylvania Gazette, Chronicle, and Journal, the three following weeks, and 200 loose Copies to be struck off immediately, in order to be distributed and fixed up in the most public places in the several Counties bordering on those Rivers.

Four Gentlemen of this city waited on the Governor and presented him a Petition signed by a very considerable Number of the Inhabitants of the Counties of Philadelphia and Chester, setting forth that the Public Highway from the city of Philadelphia to Chester now in use, leads over no less than fifteen steep and stony Hills of very difficult ascent, and is also crooked and far about, which renders it very inconvenient to Travellers, but more especially to those who Travel with Carriages of all sorts:

Extract of a Letter from Col. Stephens Lieutenant of Frederick County Dated Sep. 11th 1769.

(No. 18.)

Williamsburg, Sept. 30. 1769.

My Lord

I received the honour of your Lordſhips Letter with the proceedings of the Council inclosed. When I troubled your Lordſhip with that Letter I did not apprehend an immediate Rupture with the Indians, but thought it my duty to give what intelligence I could depend upon, least if any thing had happened between them and us, your Lordſhip should have thought me amiſs, as I live contiguous to that Country, and am acquainted with many of the Emigrants.

Your Lordſhip, by the inclosed Speech, of a noted Indian, will discover the sense of that people, who it seems are diſposed to live on good terms with us, if our wicked people would let them alone.

I will communicate the Sentiments of your Lordſhip and Council to the most sensible of the Inhabitants beyond the mountains, as it will, no doubt, be a great means of binding them to their good Behaviour.

Since the Indian made the inclosed Speech, three profligate fellows of the Inhabitants, have killed one Indian, who came to trade with them, and slightly wounded another.

Redstone Creek August 10. 1769

Speech of a Noted Indian

Yesterday an Indian Chief arrived at this place called the White Mingo, accompanied by some other Indians and having desired a Conference with the Inhabitants of this Settlement. They accordingly met this Day when he made them the following Speech.

Brothers of Redstone, whom we call Virginians; we are again reconciled with the Commander at Fort Pitt, and are sorry for the late Confusion in this and the neighbouring Settlements, occasioned by a Parcel of lies invented and spread abroad by a few ill designing Rascals, to make disturbance between our Brothers and us.

Some have gone off and left their Plantations and Crops; It is very hard and we are sorry for it. It is all over now, and we have settled all matters with the Commander at Fort Pitt. It lately looked like quitting hands; but now Brothers of Virginia, our Hearts and Hands are linked together, hold you fast, and depend upon it we will do the same.

The Indians would willingly be persuaded that there never will be war again between them and their Brother Virginians; We do not know our Brothers Intentions, but have a good heart towards them – Good Brothers of Virginia we desire that you will have a good heart towards us – & we will always have the same towards You.

Take no Notice of these Lies, These Idle Reports – they are false, grounded without the least appearance of truth. I settled you there, and maintained and protected you; When your Country Men would have driven you away, You are my Children and I am Your Father, and your Brother, Therefore you may believe what I tell you – I see you are building Forts, Quit it, You have no occasion for them. I tell You Brother Virginians, what you shall do, write to your great man, let him know what I say to You, & make it publick, that all our Brothers may be satisfied.

Our men are often going to War Southwardly, your people kill them, desire your Great Man to tell them to quit that, and give Orders to let the Indians pass without disturbance upon their Behaving well.

Brother Virginians There is an other thing I would mention to You your People have stolen some of our Horses – Get them – I have done the like for you, and will always – and have now sent a man to the Towns after Horses that have been Stolen from You – I expect he will be back in about Twenty days – This is all I have to say.

He means the Pennsylvanians, who by an Act of Assembly made it felony to settle over the Mountains and sent Commissioners to warn the People &c.

Extract from Lord Botetourt's answer to Col. Stephen Dated Sep. 27.

I am much pleased with the Speech you have sent me, and rejoice that the appearance of an Indian War is entirely blown over. must intreat you to be very attentive to carry into execution the Laws of your Country against offenders of every sort, and must likewise desire that you convince all around you that Indians who behave well are equally entitled to Protection with any other of His Majesty's Subjects, that their lives are equally precious, and that all who shall be convicted of murdering an Indian will certainly die.

Extract from a Letter
from Col. Stephen Dated
Sepr 14th — with Lord Botetourts
answer and a Speech of
a noted Indian delivered
at Redstone Creek Augst
10th — 1769.

In Lord Botetourt's (No 18)
of 30th Septr 1769.

his Goods declaring they would suffer none to pass on to the Ind^s^. That this circumstance has greatly exasperated the Ind^s^ & contributed to alarm the peaceable part of the White Inhabitants. When we consider the state & disposition of the Indians a people without Laws, or Government very revengeful and influenced much by French Councills & very Jealous of us, We may conclude that as these people cannot in Gen^l^ be kept in order without an Expence that may be deemed greater than its Object, All we can do is to divide their Councils & retain a part of them in our Interest, which I am pretty confident I have Interest and Influence to do at all events; It is highly necessary to prevent a too Gen^l^ union amongst them, and I should rather have declined taking the pains I did to effect a peace between the Six Nations & Cherokes, because we enjoy the most security when they are divided amongst themselves At the breaking out of the late Indian War I proposed to raise Indians to be employed against the enemy, It was thought giving them too much Consequence, however I took upon myself to send out a few parties which notwithstanding the pains generally taken to allow them as little merit as possible Contributed Essentially to bring that war to a Conclusion. For altho' it may be said & is in part true that Ind^s^ are unwilling to fight against one another in our Quarrells, there are many exceptions to this Opinion. There are some to be had who will join with ardour against any Enemy, & many more whom it is policy to retain in our service, who tho' at first unwilling to act offensively from maxims of policy, Yet if by any means blood is drawn will become principals in the war, & this the Indians are so sensible of that there is nothing of which they are more apprehensive.

I hope that whatever is the Issue of the present Alarms I shall be able to retain a large body in his Majesties Interest, & even to get them to act against the Enemy if it is required of me, and so soon as I receive any farther information that may be material, I shall communicate it immediately

I have the honor to be &^c^

The R^t^. honble
The Earl of Hillsborough.

SIR W^M^. JOHNSON TO L^T^. GOV. COLDEN.

Johnson hall, Oct. 4th 1769.

DEAR SIR,

I sincerely congratulate you on your once more entering upon the Administration of Government, and I most Cordially wish you health, Success, and Satisfaction in the discharge, of it tho' as you Justly observe there will be doubtless some who will endeavor to throw difficulties in your Way, but I expect you will Surmount them. The pleasure of seeing you, would I do assure you be no small inducement to my undertaking a Journey to New York At present however it is not in my power, as you have probably heard that on my late Tour thro' the Six Nation Country as I returned from holding a private Meeting in the Night, my Canoe was overset & in ascending a Bank I got a fall by which my Leg was very dangerously Cut with a Stake which has hitherto Confined me to the House, as it did for some time to my Chamber. The advice you give me tho' I take it Extremely kind, is founded on the Expectation of an Event, which would give me real concern, and therefore I must be very far from desiring it.

Sir H Moore sometime ago promised that he would take some Measures for effectually Securing to the Mohocks and Conajoharees the Lands on and about their Villages, this the Ind^s^. spoke of at the late Treaty at Fort Stanwix and I am persuaded that you will do whatever is best for that end, with a View to wch I shall send you the Surveys wch S^r^ Harry directed me to get made in order to know their exact Contents. There are 2 or 3 other Subjects which I shall take the Liberty of touching upon. You know the Assembly framed a Bill for dividing the County of Albany, by forming a County on this River, the bounds they proposed seem evidently the Work of a party for private purposes they Extended Albany Co. to Aries Kill by which means they not only Cut & divide a Number of Patents, but by carrying it so far up the Mohock River must render it a hardship on the people of the New County to Erect the buildings necessary, and greatly hurt the New Settlements,—All the principal people of this Country have subscribed a petition to the Assembly which is in the hands of Capt De Lancey to be laid before the House Setting forth the Case, & praying that the Boundary may be Extended either with, or without Scohare, that in Running from Hardenberghs Patent on either Side of Scohare thence along the Patroons Line to the West bounds of the Township of Schenectady thence North along the West Line of that Township. This I can Assure you is the best, most Natural, and Convenient boundary that can be formed, and I therefore take the Liberty of recommending it to your patronage.

The next thing is with regard to the Militia, Gov^r^. Moore formed Sev^l^ regiments, as the Old ones were overgrown he divided the province into Two Districts, giving me the Command from the frontiers to the Highlands as Brigadier General (which in fact was no preferment it was going backwards) What was done with respect to the Militia was really Necessary in order to make them decent and respectable, I however heard sometime ago of farther Intentions of his, wch I can't say much for, but perhaps I was misinformed, Much favor was Shewn to certain persons in these Appointments but what I have principally to observe at present, is, that there seems to be a Law necessary for inforcing Obedience & subjecting them to fines, as I understand some insinuate that the pres^{t} Militia bill can't operate or Extend to the New Reg^{ts} tho' I should think otherwise & that it must Extend to all the Militia that shall be in the Province, This you can easily explain to me. Sir H Moore Expressed his desire of putting the Militia upon a more regular footing than formerly, he politely sent me blank Commissions for sev^{l} Regiments (as Indeed all the Gov^{rs} have done) & he paid regard to my Recommendations in favor of sev^{l} of the field Officers, but in some Instances that Method & Uniformity was forgotten Some Whole Reg^{ts} were formed within the Dis^{t} of my Command, without even my knowledge, neither do I as yet know their bounds, and I am told M^{r} Schyler of Albany who seemed to Influence much in these Matters got some principal Officers Commissions, who really were not Extremely fitting for it; In the Regiment of Horse I have heard of a Majors being appointed that is by no means equal to Sev^{l} persons I could Mention, I should be glad to recomend to you for this Majority L^{t} Augustin Prevost late of the 60th Regt who is settled & has a good property near Cherry Valley, There is a Vacancy also of a Major in Col Sternberghs Reg^{t}. at Scohare, for which I take the liberty to recomend Peter B Vrooman who was Mentioned to S^{r} Henry who promised to send his Commission but his death prevented. There are some more Vacancies & other Matters to be mentioned on this subject which I shall refer to another opportunity Concluding at present with Assuring you that I am ever with the highest Esteem D^{r} Sir,

The Honble L^{t}. Gov^{r} Colden

Provinces of Maryland and New Jersey, have respectively enacted Laws for the Preservation of the Fish in the Rivers Sasquahanna and Delaware, and for remedying the same mischiefs and Inconveniences in those Rivers, which were intended to be remedied by the aforementioned law of this Province. And whereas, by one other Act of General Assembly of this Province, passed in the said Third Year of His present Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act for making the River Schuylkill navigable, and for the Preservation of "the Fish in the said River," it was, among other things, enacted, that if any person or persons whatsoever, from and after the publication thereof, should erect, build, set up, repair or maintain and Wear, Rack, Basket, Fishing Dam, or other Device or Obstruction whatsoever, within the said River, or that should fix or fasten any Net or Nets across the same, or any part thereof, whereby the Fish might be obstructed from going up the said River, or that should take, destroy, or spoil, any Spawn, Fry, or Brood of Fish, or any kind of Fish whatsoever, in any such Wear, Rack, Dam, Basket, Pound, or other Device aforesaid, every such person so offending, being thereof legally convicted by the Oath or Affirmation of one or more credible Witnesses, or by his own Confession, should forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds, lawful money of this Government, for every such offence, or suffer Six months Imprisonment, without Bail or Mainprize.

And whereas it hath been represented to me, that notwithstanding the salutary provisions made in the said Laws, a large number of Wears, Dams, Baskets, and other Obstructions, have been, and daily continue to be erected in the said Rivers, whereby the good Intentions of the Legislature are rendered ineffectual, and the mischiefs intended to be remedied remain unremoved; I have therefore thought fit, by and with the Advice of the Council, to issue this my Proclamation, hereby strictly charging and commanding all persons whatsoever, to yield the most exact obedience to the said Laws, under the penalties therein imposed: And I do also require and enjoin the several Magistrates, Sheriffs, and all other Officers, for the several Counties adjoing the said Rivers, to pay due attention to the said Laws, and to exert their utmost Endeavours to enforce a faithful and strict observance of them.

Given under my Hand, and the Great Seal of the
the said Province, at Philadelphia, the Seventh
Day of October, in the Ninth Year of His Majesty's Reign, and in the Year of Our Lord one
Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-nine.

JOHN PENN.*

By his Honour's Command,
Joseph Shippen, Junior, Secretary.

God Save the King.

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* See Col. Rec. Vol. IX., p. 610, 623.

Sir Wm. Johnson to Gov. Penn, 1769.

Johnson Hall, Octob^{r} 24th, 1769.

Sir,

I was lately favoured with your letter of the 16th ult^{o}, and hope ere now that the Ind^{s} have met y^{r} Surveyors at the place appointed, having given them notice as soon as I received your letter on that Subject.

I saw the acc^{t} in the papers of ye Condolence performed for the Murder of Seneca George's Son, and since I have received the news of the Father's Misfortune, which I find some of the Indians are so unreasonable as to censure us for. The Chiefs of Onaghquage are likewise now come with Several Belts to me & Strings of Wampum from their Tribe, complaining grievously that Col. Francis has been up near to their Town, taking up a Tract of Land where there are two Salt Springs, to the Northward of the Boundary Line, which gives them much Uneasiness, and they are very pressing that I would imediately write and prevent it. As I don't well know where Col. Francis may be found at present, I thought it best to mention the matter to you; besides, from my knowledge of that gentleman, I can't have any reason for thinking that he would take any improper steps, but that they must either have been misinformed or mistaken as to the place; be it as it will, they have made great clamour about, which induces me to give you this trouble about it.

I persuade myself that nothing will be wanting on your part for making the necessary establishments for the regulation of the Indian Trade, or for preventing the Ill treatment which the Indians have of late but too often received from the Frontier Inhabitants, which have occasioned more general discontent than is imagined, for altho' the friends of the deceased are always pleased at being condoled with, yet where so many Instances happen, and such a Spirit manifests itself amongst the Inhabitants, the Indians are induced to think that we have some general Design against them.

Whenever it is convenient to you, the amount of the acc^{t} can be paid to Mr. John Wetherhead, Merch^{t} in New York. I have at present only to add, that I am with great regard,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient

& Very humble Servant,

W. JOHNSON.

Directed,

The L^{t} Hon^{ble} Governor Penn.

To all People

to whom these presents shall come Greeting
Know Ye, That We Abraham a Mohawk +
Chief, Tenughois a Oneida Chief, Saquarisera, a
Tuscarora Chief, of the the Onondaga Council, Tagaaia
a Cayuga Chief & Gaustarax a Seneca Chief, Chiefs and
Sachems of the Six united Nations, and being and &+
effectually representing all the Tribes of the said Six United
Nations, send Greeting. **Whereas** Robert Callender
David Franks Joseph Simons, Levy Andrew Levy +
Philip Boyle John Baynton Samuel Wharton George
Morgan, Joseph Spear Thomas Smallman, Samuel
Wharton Administrator of John Welch deceased, Edmund
Moran Evan Shelby Samuel Postlethwait John Gibson,
Richard Winston Dennis Crohon, William Thompson &+
Abraham Mitchel, James Dundas Thomas Dundas —
and John Ormsby in and by their several and respective
Letters or Powers of Attorney duly signd Sealed and
delivered by them and now produced Interpreted and
Explained to us Have Constituted Nominated and
Appointed William Trent of the County of Cumberland
and Province of Pennsylvania Merchant, their +
lawful Attorney and Agent, To ask Sollicit Demand
and receive from the Sachems Councellors and Warriors
of the said Six united Nations a Grant of a Tract
of Land as a Compensation Satisfaction or +
Retribution for the Goods Merchandize and Effects
of the said William Trent and the Traders aforesaid.
which the Shawnesse Delaware and Huron Tribes
Tributaries of the said Six Nations [Contrary to all
good Faith and in Violation of their repeated Promises
of Safety and Protection to their Persons Servants

and Effects whilst Trading in their Country [illegible] Did in the Springs of the Year One Thousand seven hundred and Sixty three, Violently seize upon, and unjustly appropriate to their own Use. And whereas we are now Convened in full Council by Order of our Father the King of Great Britain France and Ireland Defender of the Faith &c at Fort Stanwix in the Province of New York in order to Agree for, Ascertain and finally fix and Settle a permanent and lasting Boundary Line between the Hunting Country which we at the Conference aforesaid shall and will Reserve for ourselves our Children and our Tributaries and the Territories of the said King of Great Britain And Whereas Application was formerly made to the said Six United Nations by Sir William Johnson Baronet at the Requisition of the aforesaid Traders who had sustained and suffered the Losses aforesaid for a Retribution for the same, which the said Six United Nations promised and agreed to whenever He the said Sir William Johnson Baronet should be impowered by His said Majesty the King of Great Britain to establish the Boundary Line aforesaid And Whereas the said Sir William Johnson Baronet has now at this present Congress reminded the said Six United Nations of their said promise, and at the earnest desire of the aforesaid Traders by their said Attorney strongly recommended to the said Six United Nations to make them a Restitution by a Grant of a Tract of Land to His said Majesty the King of Great Britain his Heirs and Successors To and for the only use Benefit and Behoof of the said William Trent in his own Right and

Instance of their Justice and Concern for the said Losses Do therefore by these Presents Solemnly publish and declare That
[illegible] agreed to agree thereunto [illegible]
notwithstanding the Grant and Gift hereby made and Given by them unto his said Majesty the King of Great Britain and so forth
To and for the only Use Benefit and Behoof of the said William Trent in his own Right and as Attorney aforesaid
Examined by [illegible]

Will Parr, Recr

and as Attorney as aforesaid,⊕ will be included within the Cession Sale and Boundary Line which the said Six United Nations shall and will make Sell and Grant to the said King of Great Britain at the Conference aforesaid now holden at Fort Stanwix aforesaid by the said Sir William Johnson Baronet. Yet nevertheless, the said Six United Nations have neither asked demand nor received from Him the said Sir William Johnson Baronet, nor from any other person or persons in behalf of the said King of Great Britain any Consideration for the hereby given and Granted Premises, neither shall nor will the said Six United Nations nor their Heirs nor Descendants. (and by these Presents They the said Six United Nations wholy and intirely interdict and prohibit them from so doing) demand nor receive from the said King of Great Britain nor from his Successors, nor from his or their Ministers or Agents any Consideration whatsoever or howsoever for the hereby granted bargained or now Given premises or any part, purpart or parcel thereof. the same being their own Voluntary Act and Deed, Solely and bona fide designed and intended by them as a Compensation Satisfaction and Retribution for the Losses sustained by the said William Trent and the Indian Traders aforesaid, by the Depredations of the Shawnese Delaware and Huron Tribes of Indians aforesaid in the aforesaid Year One One Thousand seven hundred and Sixty three. **Now this Indenture Witnesseth** That We the said Abraham, Senughsis, Sequarresera, Chenaugheata, Tagaaia and Gaustrax, (Chiefs and Sachems of the said Six United Nations, and being and effectually [illegible] aforesaid representing all the Tribes of the said Six United Nations) for and in Consideration of the Sum of Eighty five Thousand Nine hundred and Sixteen Pounds Ten Shillings and

⊕ All which the said Six United Nations having taken into their Consideration and being heartily disposed to agree thereunto as an Instance of their Justice and Concern for the said Losses Do therefore by these presents Signify publish and declare that notwithstanding the Grant and Gift hereby made and Given by them unto his Majesty the King of Great Britain and so forth To and for the only Use Benefit and Behoof of the said William Trent in his own Right and as Attorney aforesaid.

Examined

Wil: Starr Recr

and Eight Pence lawful money of the Province of New York [the same being the Amount of the Goods and Merchandize which were unjustly taken and seized as aforesaid, by the Shawnese, Delaware and Huron Tribes of Indians aforesaid from the said William Trent Robert Callender David Franks Joseph Simons, Levy Andrew Levy, Philip Boyle, John Baynton, Samuel Wharton, George Morgan, Joseph Spear Thomas Smallman, Samuel Wharton, Administrator of John Welch deceased, Edmund Moran, Evan Shelby, Samuel Postlethwait, John Gibson Richard Winston, Dennis Crohon, William Thompson, Abraham Mitchel, James Dundas Thomas Dundas and John Ormsby in the aforesaid Year One Thousand seven hundred and sixty three, whereof Just and fair Accounts have on Oath and Affirmation being Produced, Interpreted, and Explained to us, and which at our desire are now Lodged and Deposited with the said Sir William Johnson Baronet] And for and in Consideration of the Sum of Five Shillings lawful Money aforesaid to us in hand paid by the said William Trent the Receipt whereof We do hereby acknowledge, Do Give Grant Bargain and Sell unto His said Majesty his Heirs and Successors, To and for the only Use Benefit and Behoof of the said William Trent, in his own Right and as Attorney aforesaid, All that Tract or Parcell of Land Beginning at the Southerly side of the Mouth of little Kanhawa Creek, where it empties itself into the River Ohio, and Runing from thence South East to the Lawrel Hill, Thence along the Lawrel Hill untill it strikes the River Monongehela Thence down the Stream of the said River Monongehela according to the several Courses thereof, to the Southern Boundary Line of the Province of Pennsylvania Thence Westerly along the Course of the said Province

Boundary

2

+ a Boundary Line as far as the same shall extend, and from
thence by the same Course to the River Ohio, Thence down
the said River Ohio according to the several Courses thereof
to the place of Beginning. Together with all and Singular
the Trees Woods Under Woods Mines Minerals Oars Waters
Water Courses Fishings Fowlings Huntings Profits Commo-
-dities Advantages Rights Liberties Privileges Hereditaments
and Appurtenances whatsoever to the said Tract or parcell of
Land be longing or in any wise appertaining or which now
are, or formerly have been Accepted reputed taken known used
Occupied or Enjoyed to or with the same or as part of
parcell or Member thereof. And the Reversion and &
Reversions Remainder and Remainders Rents Issues and
Profits of all and singular the said Premises above mentioned
and every part and parcell thereof with the Appurtenances
And also all the Estate Right Title ~~and~~ Interest &
Property Claim and Demand whatsoever whether Native
Legal or Equitable of us the said Indians and each and every
of us, and of all and every other person or persons whatsoever
of or belonging to the said Nations of into and out of all &
Singular the Premises above mentioned and of into and out
of every part and parcell thereof with the Appurtenances —
To have and to hold all and Singular the said Tract
Parcel and Parcells of Land, given Granted and bargain
Premises with their Appurtenances unto His said &
Majesty King George the third his Heirs and Successors
But to and for the only Use Benefit and Behoof of
the said William Trent in his own Right and as Attorney
aforesaid, his Heirs and Assigns for Ever. And the
said Abraham, Senughois, Saquarisera, Chenaugheata,
Tagaaia and Gaustarax for themselves and for the said
Six United Nations and all and every other Nation and
Nations Tribes Tributaries and Dependants on the said
Six United Nations and their and every of their Posteritys
the said Tract and Parcel of Land and Premises and every
part thereof against them the said Abraham, Senughois, -
Saquarisera Chenaugheata Tagaaia and Gaustarax And
+ again

+ against the said Six United Nations and their + Tributaries and Dependants, and all and every of their Posteritys to his said Majesty his Heirs and Succeſsors, but to and for the only Use Benefit and Behoof of the said William Trent in his own Right and as Attorney aforesaid his Heirs and Aſsigns shall and will Warrant and for Ever Defend by these presents In Witneſs whereof we the said Chiefs and Sachems in behalf of ourselves respectively, and in behalf of the whole Six United Nations aforesaid have hereunto set our Hands and Seals in the presence of the persons subscribing as Witneſses hereunto at a Congreſs held at Fort Stanwix aforesaid this Third Day of November in the Ninth Year of His Majesty's Reign, and in the Year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred and Sixty Eight.

Abraham or Tyahanesera Chief of — The Mark of his Nation — The Steel — Seal — the Mohocks

William or Sennghois Chief of — The Mark of his Nation — The Stone — Seal — the Oneidas

Hendrick or Sagnarisera Chief of — The Mark of his Nation — The Cross — Seal — the Tuscaroras

Bunt or Chenaugheata Chief of — The Mark of his Nation — The Mountain — Seal — the Onondagas

Tagaaia a Chief of — The Mark of his Nation — The pipe — Seal — the Cayugas

Gaustrax a Chief of the — Seal — Senecas.
The Mark of his Nation — The high Hill

Sealed and Delivered in the presence of us the Letters [d w and the Words to said] being first interlined the Words Sennghois Saquarisera Chenaugheata wrote on a

Razure, Wm Franklin – Governor of New Jersey Fre. Smyth Chief Justice of New Jersey, Thomas Walker Commissioner for Virginia, Richard Peters, James Tilghman, of the Council of Pennsylvania, John Skinner Capn in the 70th Regt, Joseph Chew of Connecticut, John Watherhead of New York, John Walker of Virginia, &c Fitch of Connecticutt, Thomas Walker Junr of Virginia, John Butler Interpreter for the Crown.

On the seventh Day of January in the Year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred and sixty nine. Before me Isaac Jones Esquire Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, Came the Reverend Richard Peters, Rector of the two United Churches of Christ Church and Saint Peters in Philadelphia, One of the Subscribing Witnesses to the within written Deed, and made Oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God that he was present and did see the within named Abraham or Tyahanesera a Chief of the Mohocks, William or Sennghois a Chief of the Oneidas, Hendrick or Sagnarisera, a Chief of the Tuscoraras, Bunt or Chenaughcala, a Chief of the Onondagoes, Tagaaia, a Chief of the Cayugas, and Gaustrax, a Chief of the [illegible] within 4 written Deed against their respective Names place the particular Mark of each Nation, and did also see the said Abraham or Tyhanesera, William or Sennghois, Hendrick or Sagnarisera, Bunt or Chenaughcala, Tagaaia and Gaustrax respectively Seal and as their Act and Deed deliver, in behalf of themselves and the several Nations which they effectually represented, the within written Deed Poll, And that the Name Richard Peters subscribed thereto as a Witness of the same, is his own hand Writing, And also that he the said Richard saw Wm Franklin Governor of New Jersey, Fre. Smyth of New Jersey, Thomas Walker Commissioner for Virginia, Tilghman, of the Council of Pennsylvania, John Skinner Capt. in the 70th Regt Joseph Chew of Connecticut, John Walker of Virginia &c Fitch of Connecticut, Thomas Walker Junr Virginia, John Butler, Interpreter for the Crown, subscribe their Names as Witnesses likewise to the Signing Sealing and delivery of the within written Deed Poll. Witness my Hand and Seal the Day and Year aforesaid. — I. Jones (Seal)

I William Parr Esq.r Recorder of Deeds in and for the City & County of Philadelphia Do hereby Certify the forgoing and within Deed Poll in two Sheets of Paper Annexed, to be an Exemplification a true Copy of a Record remaining in my Office in Book I Vol. 5. pa: 243 &c.

In Testimony of which, I have hereunto set my Hand and caused the Seal of Office afs.d to be hereunto Affixed this 2nd Day of November A.D: 1769.

Will.m Parr Rec.r

Grant from the Six Nation of Indians unto the Sufferers of 1763

This belongs to

Geo: Morgan

If this Deed can be admitted to Record at Williamsb Mr Harvey will much oblige me by having it done & I will pay the Expence

G: M

Johnson Hall Decr. 6th 1769

Sir

On my Return from a Tour I made thro the Indian Nations to Seneca I was favored with your Letter of 8th May which gave me much Satisfaction as I cannot have ~~the least~~ no Doubt of the Success of his Grace the ArchBishops application for a Grant in favor of the Church ~~which only wants his Majestys Approbation to render it Compleat~~. ~~It may be necessary to Inform you that the~~ These Lands ~~I offered~~ are no part of those Ceded by the Indians at the Fort Stanwix Treaty as they were not near them ~~neither are they near the Boundary Line~~ they are part of a Tract purchased some time ago at the North side of the Mohock River, ~~by several Gentleman with whom I was prevailed upon to be concerned~~ in which some of my friends are concerned with myself, but as I have never engaged in any Indn. But except in one I not gone for wch [illegible] ~~meddled with Lands~~ [illegible] ~~Whole of my present Estate having been purchased long ago~~ purchased from the old Patentees ~~from those who had patented the Lands~~ I Engaged in this & was induced to ~~offer the~~ its make the offer purely from my Inclination to serve the Church which stands so much in Need ~~from my Inclination for the prosperity of a Church that wants~~ of Assistance ~~protection~~ in this Country, & to contribute as far as I can towards the establishment of an [illegible] ~~I most willingly offered to give up my proportion of the Indian purchase for that purpose~~ ~~that~~ Agreeable to ~~which~~ ⊠ as soon as I could after the rect. of your Letter ~~you can describe the Land Beginning at~~ N. 58 W along Lott & Lows Line abt 792 Chains to the Place of beginning, this Contains accordg to the Survey 20620 acres includg part of the Lakes wch will take but little from its Quantity, to Illustrate which I inclose you a little Sketch, and I think upon the whole it must be of value in a little time as &c. ~~so as to Comprehend 20,000 acres, I shd farther add that several~~ Tracts have been lately patented which are at a greater distance from the market & the River than this, ~~that~~ part of wch ~~this Tract~~ is within abt Seven Miles of my House, & when the short Road now undertaken is compleated will be ~~at~~ little more than 30 from Schenectady ~~which is not half the distance of the Germanflatts & other fine Settlements from the Market~~. I shall now proceed to give you an acct of my proceedgs in forming of the Society lately appointed agreeable to ~~I have already~~ fixed a Worthy honest Man as a Schoolmaster at

⊠ ~~from after my Return~~ I sent out a Surveyor to run the Lines of the Tract of which the ~~Patented~~ proposed 20000 a is part which occasioned me to delay writing [illegible] & waited his Return & Report of the Quantity & Quality of the whole. The Survey being now compleated I find that the Land [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible] of the Survey~~ regarding the Spots adjacent to that Lines, [illegible] I think it may be [illegible] ~~but purchased adjoining the [illegible] Beginning~~ will be best to lay it out, Beginning at the Canada Creek at the N E corner of a Tract lately Granted to me by his Maty & running from thence N 74 E 0710 Chains, to a [illegible] then abt South to the N E corner of a Tract belonging to Lott & Low, thence

The Revd. Dr. Burton

At the Mohocks who tho' there only since 24th March has ~~had~~ already
~~Such Success that his School~~ already ~~consists of~~ 30 Indn. Children
under his Tuition who improve very fast & their Number will be
~~are~~ ~~who appear Greatly improved as you will find in the Return~~
shortly augmented
~~made to me of which I inclose you a Copy. The Children are~~
~~Greatly improved, & the Number of Scholars encreasing fast.~~

fit person
I have likewise Established a ~~very Good Man~~ who received
a Liberal Education in Europe at Johns Town near this
at present near
place, who has ~~already~~ 45 Children Whites and Indians
~~which Number will be doubled within a little time~~
this School daily encreases. The Name of the ~~former~~ first mentioned
School Master is Colin McLeland, of the last is Edwd. Wall, I have already
whose for
advanced them half a Years Sallary & purpose that they draw ~~on Mr.~~
for the Amount on Mr. Symonds, agreable to Direction from Dr. Auchmuty's ~~information for the Amount of the Sum~~

The Revd. Mr. Seabury of Westchester has been here but tho'
resides
he likes the place, ~~yet~~ connected ~~as he is~~ at his present Mission
that he does not think it prudent to remove ~~his family~~ unless the
for Johnstown — the situation of my affairs with
~~old~~ Sallary was encreased, and the ~~Great~~ expence I have
already & building
been at in ~~Erecting the~~ a Church, Parsonage ~~House~~ & School
House &ca will not allow me to add more ~~to his Sallary~~ than
I offered him — ~~Indeed~~ most of the other Missionaries ~~being settled~~
are circumstanced in the like Manner & & seem equally unconvinc'd to remove
~~at a considerable Distance from hence, where they are Married~~
~~their families are Extreamly unwilling to Leave their Connexions~~
better — than are allowed for that purpose
unless on Sallarys ~~beyond those allotted for the late Missions~~
~~the consideration of which, the ill success of our Endeavours~~
~~to procure them in England, and the impracticability of~~
This, with the ill success of your Endeavours in England gives me real Concern as I foresee the
~~finding young Gentlemen fit for the Office in a Country where~~
~~there is no Ordination gives me much concern, because I~~
~~plainly foresee~~ the consequences ~~if these Missions are not very~~
supplied — of having the new Missions filled
~~speedily filled up~~, as well as I do the advantages ~~of their~~
with
~~be shortly filled with any~~ Men of ~~Tolerable parts~~ & Good Characte:

~~Is there not a possibility of getting 2 or 3 some Young Men of small~~
~~Interest & Low Circumstances for from some of the Universities, or~~
~~other Learned foundations to take orders for this purpose?~~
~~I hope there is, & that you may meet with others more fitting in a~~

Little

time, for I cannot help Interesting myself much in a Cause that stands in so much Need of Support, & when every Measure is taking to Discourage it. — Since Writing the foregoing a Mr. Wm. Andrews who is to be the bearer of this has called upon me ~~with good Recommendations~~ well recommended to signify his desire for taking Orders & obtaining the Mission for Schenectady where he has some Relations and is much esteemed by the People, and from the Character I have of him Joined to my own Observations I think him well Qualified, he has received his Education at Trinity College Dublin and has a Brother who has a Living in ~~that Kingdom~~ Ireland of [illegible] and as he now goes ~~to Europe~~ for London to ~~take~~ apply for Orders I take the Liberty of recommending him for that Mission, — ~~As I apprehend the Want of Clergy in England may in some Measure owing to~~ Mr. Andrews has Hinted to me that there are many Gentlemen of good Character in Ireland who he thinks would ~~gladly~~ embrace the Offer of Missions here, & that some Sober & Aged Graduates of Trin: Coll: might easily be had from thence, I therefore think it necessary to offer this to the Consideration of the Society as worthy attention seeing that all our Endeavors hitherto elsewhere have proved ineffectual.

Sho.d there be occasion to ~~[illegible]~~ insert any part of the foregoing in the Society's publications I shou.d be glad you that the particular Description of the Land was Omitted, because I would not unnecessarily Draw on myself the remarks of those who are enemys to the Wellfare of our Church.— or the insinuation that thereby the Officers of Govt. here are deprived of fees &c.— but this is entirely submitted to the Wisdom of the Society, whose Judgement will direct them in the choice of any part of my Correspondence that may be Judged necessary for publication.

As I hope to hear from You soon & Shall not omit writing When any thing Material Occurs I have only Now to add that I am with perfect Regard

Sir,

Sepr. 6 — 1769. —

To Dr. Burton —
Secy. to the Society for propagating
the Gospel —

℘ Wm. Andrews

TO THOMAS GAGE

Contemporary Copy[1]

Copy/ *Johnson Hall December 8th. 1769.*

DEAR SIR,

Since my last the Cherokees who attended the Treaty with the Six Nations[2] are all arrived at my House with several Chiefs of the latter, who have laid before me the whole of their late proceedings, the general purport of which was that the Cherokees came to renew and strengthen the late Treaty of Peace settled here with the Six Nations, and to earnestly desire that the Six Nations and Coghnawageys should (in consequence thereof) unite their Arms against several of the Western and Southern Indian Enemys to both, they spoke on above Thirty Belts and Strings of Wampum, and in particular delivered them a Pipe resembling a Head, to signify that they put their Heads into their Hands, to be directed by them as they thought best. The Agents amongst the Six Nations whom I had previously instructed, as uncertain of the event of the Treaty, having had the Success to prevail in the Council of the Six Nations. The Three Elder Tribes of the latter replied to the Cherokees, after the usual Cermonies that they thanked them for renewing and strengthening the Treaty, and promised that on their parts it should be strictly observed, that the Nations most obnoxious to them were those towards the Ilinois, particularly the Piankashaws and Wawiaghtenoes, to which the younger Branches of the Confederacy added the Chactaws, and some others, and the whole Confederacy unamimously gave for Answer, that agreable to their former Engagements entered into with me, they would take Care of their Pipes, Belts &ca, and come to me to desire a Publick Meeting with me on the Occasion, as they were determined to enter into no Publick Engagements without communicating them first to me, and recieving my Opinion and Approbation.

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[1] In Public Record Office, C. O. 5.88. p. 59, London, England.

[2] Held March 4–12, 1768.

The Cherokees (after taking Notice in a very pritty Manner of the Obligations they owed to me for my Endeavors in effecting the late Peace between them) approved of what the Six Nations had resolved on, and the whole result was that the Chiefs of the Six Nations Accompanied by the Cherokees (the latter of whom are to remain here untill Spring) should come hither to request that I would light the Council Fire and call the Confederacy and Indians of Canada together this Winter, in Order to give them my Advice as to the Conduct of the War proposed, and to hear their Sentiments on the Proposals made to them, in consequence of which several are already here, and more on their way. This unavoidable and troublesome Circumstance altho' on many Accounts very agreable is particularly distressing to me at present, from the scarsity of Provisions, and as there is a Necessity for my Meeting them in consequence of their late Resolutions, and that as soon as I can, I am entirely at a Loss how to Conduct myself on Account of the Expence which at any rate will be considerable, and particularly how I shall supply them with Provisions, the Scarsity and dearness of which renders it impossible for me to get it in the Country, on these Heads I must request to be favored with your Advice and Directions, after which there will I expect be Time before they can Assemble from Canada &ca for determing what Steps will be best to take at the Congress, which, as I look upon it to be of Consequence and Importance should be rendered by proper Management, of as much real use to the Publick as possible, for altho' a War amongst themselves may be thought to effect the Commerce in that Quarter, yet I have strong reasons to think that unless they are engaged in something of that kind, many may be drawn into Plots and Designs of a more dangerous Tendency, and indeed the Conduct of the Nations that way, has lately been such, as to obstruct the Trade and Communication nearly or full as much as if a War had Actually Subsisted.

I am with the most Cordial Esteem.
Dear Sir,
&ca,
(Signed) W. JOHNSON.

His Excellency GENERAL GAGE.

INDORSED: Copy of a Letter from
Sir William Johnson Bar^t.
to General Gage.
Dated
Johnson Hall Decem^r: 8th: 1769
In Major Gen^l. Gage's (N^o. 39)
of Jany 6th. 1770.

FROM THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 440, is a letter of December 9th from the Earl of Hillsborough, at Whitehall, authorizing Johnson to declare the royal ratification of the treaty at Fort Stanwix, excepting private grants, commending Sir William's vigilance and expressing doubt as to French influence over the Indians (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:960–61; Q, 2:556–57).

Below Johnson's indorsement is a certificate of John Van Ness Yates, secretary of state of New York, declaring that the paper is filed in his office. Dated July 18, 1823.

FROM WILLIAM ANDREWS

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 440, is a letter of December 10th from William Andrews, at Schenectady, informing that he will soon return to Ireland and proposing that vacant missions in this province be supplied by graduates of Trinity college, Dublin, in view of the want of clergy in England and the meager facilities for education in America (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:41–22; Q, 4:264–65).

FROM WILLIAM NEWTON

A. L. S.

New York 11th Decemr. 1769

SIR,

My last to you was of the 20 Ultimo, I have only now to Inform you that I have paid the Following drafts as al fact which are Carried to your New Account and that Mr. Mortier Arrived here in Perfect Health Twelve days Aga —

I am with great Regard
Sir,
Your most Obedient, and
most Humble Servant
WM. NEWTON

[ ]	draft to John Moffatt for	£80
[ ]	ditto to John Roach for	90 4 6
[ ]	ditto on Robert Adems to Phyn & Ellice for	400
[ ]	ditto to Daniel Campbell for	150
		£720 4 6

[SIR] WILLIAM JOHNSON Baronet.

ADDRESSED: On His Majestys Service
To Sir William Johnson Baronet
Johnson Hall

INDORSED:[1] New York 11th Decbr. 1769
Mr. Newtons Letter
wth. a list of some Drafts
of mine.
Ansrd.

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[1] In Johnson's hand.

we inclined to be silent at such conduct, our Young Men would force us us to speak, & that warmly. They would soon be for Revenge, as the Provocation we have received is too great to be longer borne with. Brother, we request that the great King will give Orders to his Governors & great Men concerning these matters, assuring you that we are disposed to abide by our Engagements & Restrain our Young People, but that we cannot pretend to do it, unless a speedy end be put to the Behaviour of the People who have so repeatedly attacked us.

A Black Belt, 10 Rows.

Brother,

At the Treaty at Fort Stanwix, you then told us as you had done before, that we should pass our time in peace, & travel in Security, that Trade should Flourish, & Goods abound, that they should be sold us cheap, & that care should be taken to prevent any Person from imposing on us. Brother, this would have endeared all the English to us, but we do not see it. It is now worse than it was before.

DOCTOR THOMAS BOND TO GOVERNOR, 1770.

Sir,

I this Day visited the Brigantine Georgia Packet, Capt. John Sowder, from Georgia. I saw the Captain very ill of a Fever, the Mate and one of the other Mariners on the Recovery from Fevers. I was informed that others of the Crew had also been ill. The Fever appears to Me to be of such a Nature, that I am of Opinion the Vessel ought not to be admitted into the Port untill she is purified, nor the People brought into the City untill they are recovered. But I am also of Opinion the sick should be brought on Shore, if Houses & clean Beds are provided for them at a Distance from any of the Inhabitants.

THO. BOND.

Sepʳ. 25, 1770.

Directed.—To his Honour the Governour.

EXTRACT OF LETTER SIR WM. JOHNSON TO EARL HILLSROUGH, 1770.

The rest of the proceedings, which consisted in the ratification of the Treaty at Fort Stanwix & the Subject of Grievances, will require my saying some little upon. As to the first your Lordship will observe sufficiently from the public Conferences, the Satisfaction expressed by the Indians at the whole of that Treaty with the Resolutions they have taken to render it permanent & acceptable to all their dependants. The latter are only the principal Grievances which were spoken in public, besides which there were many others of an inferior nature not inserted, as they would have added much to the Bulk of my Transactions, & might be deemed unworthy the Attention of Government, they nevertheless gave me much Trouble & occasioned great Delay, which was of most Concern to me, as the daily maintenance of such a Number of Indians amounted to a large Sum, to abridge which I gave them my whole time, both by Day & night, & thereby considerably shortened the time of our Sitting.

Your Lordship will find that the principal Grievances complained of in public, regarded the Conduct of Our Frontier Inhabitants towards them & the State of the Indian Trade; the First (as I have repeatedly observed) is what they have but too much Reason to complain of, & which they have retaliated in a very few Instances, though I know the Contrary is too often represented. I have on former Occasions said so much of the licentious Spirit of the Inhabitants on the Southern Frontiers, that I need only add it still continues, & their Malevolence & Disregard to all Treaties is still demonstrated whensoever they fall in the way of any small Parties or single Indians. Even since I began this Letter I have received Dispatches from M^r. Croghan, my Deputy, now at Fort Pitt, acquainting me that a Soldier had shot at an Indian there, & that another was killed by a Virginian two days after near to Charles River, the Continuance of which proceedings will render all Transactions with them abortive.

As to the Affairs of Trade, I wish I could say that they had no Cause of Complaint, but the Contrary has been too often manifested of late. Commissioners have been appointed to meet from some of the Colonies, but it is not expected that any Expence will be incurred adequate to the Service, in which Case it is much better to do nothing, & *that* it is thought will be the Consequence of their Meeting.

Another Circumstance much complained of, as well during the Treaty as since by those Indians who accompanied me to this place, is of the great Cargoes of Rum which (of late in particular) are sent amongst them, to their Ruin as they call it. Many Traders carry little or nothing else, because their profits upon it are so considerable, and whatever Resolutions they enter into the Indians have not virtue enough to withstand the Temptation when it comes amongst them. They therefore beg it may not be suffered to come to their Castles or Hunting Places; & indeed the licentious Abuse of the Sale, notwithstanding its peculiar profit, is extremely hurtful to the Trade in general from its Effects upon the Indians, besides its giving encouragement to the meanest & most profligate Traders to go amongst them, in that neither Capacity or Knowledge of the Indians or their Language is necessary for the Sale of it. But very little remedy can be expected here against the Abuse of that Liquor, though its Effects are daily manifested. Again, when Indians are assembled on public Affairs, there are always Traders secreted in the Neighbourhood, & some publicly, who not only make them intoxicated during the time intended for Business, but afterwards get back great part of their presents in Exchange for Spirituous Liquors of the worst kind, thereby defeating the Intentions of the Crown, & causing them to commit many Murders & other Disorders, as well amongst the Inhabitants as themselves. This is grievously complained of by the Indians, but I know of no penal Law at present subsisting for restraining the Sale of that pernicious Liquor even during public Business, which I humbly conceive should be recommended to the immediate Attention of the American Legislatures, as well as some Law for the more effectual apprehending & punishing Offenders on the Frontiers in a summary Way.

PROCLAMATION AGAINST MURDERER OF ISAAC MEYER, 1770.

By the Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant-Governor, and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS Information hath been made to me that, in the Night of the Fourteenth Day of July last, a certain Isaac Meyer was grievously and mortally wounded by some Person unknown, who wilfully and maliciously shot him in the Neck, while he was sitting in the House of Henry Buch, in Heidelberg Township, in the County of Lancaster, of which mortal Wound the said Meyer died on the Day following. And Whereas it is of the greatest Importance to the Safety and Well-being of His Majesty's liege Subjects, that the Authors of such inhuman and atrocious Crimes should be detected, and brought to condign and exemplary Punishment: And Whereas all Endeavours, hitherto used, for discovering the Author

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* See Col. Rec., Vol. IX., p. 709.

and Perpetrator, or Perpetrators, of the above-mentioned villainous Murder, have proved ineffectual; I Have thought fit, by and with the Advice of the Council, to issue this my Proclamation, hereby strictly enjoining and requiring all Judges, Justices, Sheriffs, Constables, and other Officers, as well as all other His Majesty's Subjects, within this Province, to make diligent Search and Enquiry after the Author, Perpetrator and Perpetrators of the said Murder; And, as an Encouragement for the discovering and bringing the Offender, or Offenders, to Justice, I Do hereby promise the public Reward of One Hundred Pounds, to be paid to any person, or Persons, who shall discover, apprehend and secure him, or them, so that he, or they, be prosecuted to Conviction, according to due Course of Law.

Given under my Hand, and the Great Seal of the said Province, at Philadelphia, the First Day of October, in the Tenth Year of His Majesty's Reign, and in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy.

JOHN PENN.

By His Honour's Command,
JOSEPH SHIPPEN, junior, Secretary.

God Save the King.

GEN. GAGE TO GOV. PENN, 1770.

New York, Oct. 23, 1770.

Sir,

I have received your letters of the 16th and 18th Inst., with a Number of Depositions, and a Remonstrance to you from the House of Assembly of Pennsylvania. All relative to Demands for the Payment of Carriages employed by Lieut. Colonel Wilkins,* on his March to Fort Pitt in 1768, with part of His Majesty's Royal Regiment of Ireland.

The Papers you have transmitted, shall be laid before the proper Officers for Examination with as little Delay as possible, and I will do all that depends on me, to redress the Grievances complained of.

I have the honour to be with great Regard,

Sir,
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant,
THO'S GAGE.

Directed.
Hon'ble Lieu^t. Gov^r. Penn.

* See Colon. Rec., Vol. IX., p. 684.

Gentlemen—

We are now about finiſhing our Treaty with the Six Nations, the particulars whereof will be laid before the Grand Congreſs, so that it will be ~~to~~ unneceſsary as well as tedious to give you a Detail of it— and only obſerve that thoſe Nations have adopted and confirmed the union and appear to be well diſpoſed towards us— I have encloſed their Testimony with Regard to their parting with the Susquehannah Lands— with our Reply you will I conceive readily believe this to be a most inſidious Manœuvre to give a Byaſs and Prejudice against the Colony's Claim— for myſelf I cannot doubt of it as it was a Matter intirely foreign to the Negotiation, a Matter of which the Indians could make neither Claim nor Complaint— I have ſpoke my Mind freely reſpecting the Baſeneſs with

of attempting to injure a Cause in this
Manner, tho I will not hazard a Conjecture
of any one particular Person who has perswaded the Indians to done it.
You are sensible this Matter must have been
delivered without my having any previous
Knowledge of it, and consequently it was not
in my Power to do any thing to prevent it.
it is said it was done without the Body of
the Indians being advised with upon it
and that many of them are much displeased
with its being mentioned— I will avail
myself of what Knowledge I can as to that
particular, whatever Information I get
shall Communicate to you— for tho in our
present Situation of affairs, Matters of th
Kind do not engage our attention as they
once did— yet it is not possible not to feel
Such an artfull Perversion of a Treaty—
We have agreed to Recommend Mr
Richland, and Mr Bean, Lenres Jung

this Treaty, to the Consideration of the Congreſs — Mr
Dean has it in Consideration whether he will go
up with the Indians, to interpret and Explain the
Treaty in their Councills, and observe the Effects of it
which I hope he will comply with, as I think
Money laid out this Way, and for the Encouragement
of Miſsionarys, who are good Men, and friendly
are Expenditures of the most profitable as well
as frugal kind — Mr Kirkland and Mr
Croſby have ſuffered much in these Commotions
and their Cases deſerve, I imagine, publick
attention. Mr Croſby's Circumſtances I am
indeed leſs informed of but I take it they
are both Sufferers — We hear nothing
in ſpecial from Canada, except that they
were lately just about to launch a Veſsell
or Two for the Lake Service — and that the
natives of that Country maintain a pacific Diſposition —
Genl Schyler left us Monday morning — and
We now hear Genl Montgomery has
with an advanced Party taken Poſseſsion
of an Island about fifteen miles this Side
St Johns

that our Army are about moving forward is
I ſuppoſe undoubtedly true — what the
News is to the Southward I might hear perhaps
~~here~~ at this Place by the beginning of next Month without
leaving the City — they have no Post except
one just now eſtabliſhed to the eastward, which
comes to this Place — you will pleaſe to
Excuſe the inaccuracies of this Letter, as I
write in haſt — Wiſhing of you
Gentlemen all needfull Guidance and
Aſſiſtance in the great and Important
Service to which you are called, I
Subſcribe myſelf — Gentlemen
your most Obedient
and humble Servant

Oliver Wolcott

THE CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Gentlemen —

We are now about finiſhing our Treaty with the Six Nations the particulars whereof will be laid before the Grand Congreſs so that it will be ~~to~~ unneceſsary as well as tedious to give you a Detail of it — and only obſerve that those Nations have adopted and Confirmed the union and appear to be well diſposed towards us — I have encloſed their Testimony with Regard to their parting with the Susquehannah Lands — with our Reply. you will I conceive readily believe this to be a most inſidious Manœuvre to give a Byaſs and Prejudice against the Colony Claim — for myself I cannot doubt of it as it was a Matter intirely foreign to the Negotiation, a Matter of which the Indians could make neither Claim nor Complaint — I have spoke my Mind freely reſpecting the Buſineſs of attempting to injure a Cause in this Manner, tho I will not hazard a Conjecture of any one particular Person who has perswaded the Indians to do it. You are sensible this Matter must have been delivered without my having any previous Knowledge of it, and consequently it was not in my Power to do any thing to prevent it. it is said it was done without the Body of the Indians being advised with upon it and that Many of them are much dissatisfied with it's being mentioned — I will avail myself of what Knowledge I can as to that particular, — whatever Information I get shall Communicate to you — for tho in our present Situation of affairs, Matters of th Kind do not engage our attention as they once did — yet it is not possible not to feel such an artfull Perversion of a Treaty —

We have agreed to Recommend Mr Rochland, and Mr Dean, Lenres Ding this Treaty to the Consideration of the Congreſs — Mr Dean has it in Consideration whither he will go up with the Indians, to interpret and Explain the Treaty in their Councills, and observe the Effects of it which I hope he will comply with, as I think Money laid out this Way, and for the Encouragement of Miſsionarys, who are good Men, and friendly are Expenditures of the most profitable as well as frugal kind — Mr Kirkland and Mr Croſsby have ſuffered much in these Commotions and their Cases deserve, I imagine, publick attention. Mr Croſsbys Circumſtances I am indeed leſs informed of but I take it they are both Sufferers — We hear nothing in special from Canada, except that they were lately just about to launch a Veſsel or Two for the Lake Service — and that the natives of that Country maintain a pacific Diſposition — Genl Schyler left us Monday morning — and We now hear Genl Montgomery has with an advanced Party taken Poſseſsion of an Iland about fifteen miles this Side St Johns,

that our Army are about moving forward is
I suppose undoubtedly true — what the
News is to the Southward I might hear perhaps
at this Place ~~here~~ by the beginning of next Month without
leaving the City — they have no Post except
one just now established to the eastward, which
comes to this Place — you will please to
Excuse the inaccuracies of this Letter, as I
write in hast — Wishing of you
Gentlemen all needfull Guidance and
Assistance in the great and Important
Service to which you are called, I
Subscribe myself Gentlemen
your most Obedient
and humble Servant

Oliver Wolcott

THE CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Brothers. the Commiſsioners appointed by the 12 united provinces attend — As we had already got through our publick Buſineſs, & so happily settled every thing to our mutual ſatiſfaction we did not expect to be called together again. But Brothers an affair has happened which again calls for our publick attention — Accidents will happen. it is not in our power to prevent them — Tho: the Occaſion of this meeting is truly melancholly; yet we thank you that you have called us together & given us the earliest intelligence of this sorrowful affair — We are entirely ſatiſfied as to our Brother, Mr. Schuyler's, diſposition towards us — we can't but think it is intirely foreign from his Intention that one drop of Indian Blood should be ſpilt in the preſent Quarrel

Brothers of Kaghnawaga attend—

We have been upon a Treaty with our Brethren the Commiſsioners appointed by the 12 united provinces, who have Spoke with us altogether of peace— Just as we had finished our publick buſineſs, the unhappy news of your misfortune reached our ears— Brothers we beg you to compoſe yourselves & poſseſs your minds in peace— We are aſsured nothing is designed against you— What has been done was entirely without the orders, or even the knowledge of the great Warriors (i.e) the Commanders at Ticonderoga or Crown-point— Therefore Brothers, we hope you will not lay it too much to heart; but for the present set Still, untill the unhappy affair may be settled— In the mean time, Brothers, we ~~[illegible]~~ do by this belt invite you down to our central Council-house where we will communicate to you the transactions of this Congreſs, & confer together on other affairs— And for the greater diſpatch, Brothers, we deſire you would riſe directly, & send a few only ~~part~~ of your people to our central Fire as soon as poſsible—

* * *

Brothers, Comrs appointed by the 12 united provinces attend.

We take the Liberty to instruct you how to settle this unhappy affair— You are first to pull the hatchet out of the head of the deceaſed, ~~pull up a~~ dig up a pine Tree & throw the hatchet into the hole— This is to be done with a white belt—

By a second Belt you must say you cover the dead Bodies & the hatchet in the same grave never to be found again—

N.B. The second Belt must be large—

Brother — We extreemly rejoice that you have conſented and agreed to ſend an Embaſsy of your own People to carry your meſsage to your Brothers Canachuwaga, and the Seven Tribes on the River St Lawrance — it has from the ~~[illegible]~~ first of this Treaty been our Wiſh, that ſome Wiſe and prudent Perſons of your own, ſhould go to them and acquaint them with our friendly Diſpoſition towards them — and We thot nothing would be a greater Security to prevent any, ill accidents that might happen to diſturb our Peace — than your Wiſe and friendly Interpoſition — your conſenting and agreeing to this ~~[illegible]~~ Thing gives us the greateſt joy — you will by that means know the truth of every Thing — and We ~~hope~~ Wiſh you will let them know, that We are

~~of~~ to Maintain~~ing~~ and Cultivat~~ing~~ a Friendship ~~[illegible] for~~ with ~~for~~ them, and that We ~~would~~ ~~wish~~ very much Desire not to do them any kind of Injury — but all the Service in our Power — this they must in some measure be sensible of ~~them~~, as they know that some of their Children have been and now are taken good care of and Instructed at Dartmouth Colledge under the Care of Dr Wheelock where they will still be well provided for, by the 12 united Colonies — who have ordered five hundred Dollars to be paid for the Maintenance and Instruction of their Children, the Conewaga, and the Seven Tribes on the River St Lawrance and further Provisions We are confident by the 12 united Colonies will be made for their Support if it shall be necessary — We hope therefore notwithstanding this unfortunate accident, which We most sincerely regret, that they will receive no ill Impressions against us

We ſhall provide for those who go on this Embaſsy, the Belts and every other thing Neceſsary, and ſee that they are well provided for till they get to Gen.l Skuyler, who will then further provide for them — We ~~therefore~~ ~~therefor~~ Return the Belt, and ſincerely hope your meſsage may be proſperous and happy —

Brother We are now about to part with each other, let us again repeat it and for ever eſtabliſh it in our minds that We maintain the Covenant of Peace — and let us never be jealous nor ~~and~~ distruſtfull of each other — ill accidents ~~befall~~ may happen ~~or Intention~~ and there are imprudent Perſons doubtleſs amongst you as well as us — but our hearts are upright ~~and~~ per We will prevent every evil which We can — and such as We cannot prevent We will heal

I 15

The Waggons and every thing necessary
for your Return are providing for you
Let us now Drink together before We part
in Brotherly Love — and then may you
Return to your Home in safely ~~and~~
Peace ——

THE CONNECTICUT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Tyoucarr. (110)

We think it necessary to tell you, that after the Resolutions
entered into by all the Nations ~~[illegible] for Tranquility~~
that is to say the Seven Nations of Canada & United Nations &c
for securing Peace & Tranquility, we produced this large Belt of 50
Rows in order to confirm and strengthen the Same, and to [illegible]
all these Nations to that end & purpose [illegible]
that [illegible] you will signify the same to
[illegible]
[illegible] in the Same Belt [illegible]
[illegible] and that it
be deposited with the Senecas which is the Door of the Six
Nations, in order to acquaint the Delawares their Confederates thereby of their Resolutions for Peace, & determined for running
the same Measures to that purpose — a large Belt of 30 Rows

Bt. This Belt the Speaker of this [illegible] we Received from Governor Penn inviting
them to go to Fort Pitt to a Council to be held there in order
to fall on Measures for restoring Peace, but upon a second [illegible]
recd. from Col. Croghan that there was a Skirmish had happened
between the Virginians & the Delawares, wherein two of the
latter were killed, it would not be safe for them to go there
and that the Meeting proposed could not take place, we
therefore now bring the Belt to you in order to have your
Opinion ~~[illegible]~~ in the matter & that you may give a proper
Ansr. to Govr. Penn for us —

Brother — This is the Belt sent by Sir Wm. Johnson to our People living on the Ohio
[illegible], requiring them to call all their people [illegible]
away — in consequence of which, they all, except a few
that were married amongst the Shawanese, came away ——

They then Concluded with Expressing their Concern at hearing of that the disputes to the Southwd. rather increased & that there had been an Engagement lately, They Expected to be fully informed as to this & any others interesting to their Friendship & also with regard to reports propagated of a Large body of Troops at Boston & a dispute between the King & the People here that might affect them ——

Col. Johnson Ansd. them in a few Words Expressg. his Esteem for them & his satisfaction at finding them unite in such Wise Resolutions, that he shd. Consider the whole & Ansd. them fully the Next day in such a manner as must Convince them of the Good Intentions of Govt. & of his personal regard —

Die 8o.

Col. Johnson Ansd.

Brethn! Having duly considered on your Last Speeches of Yesterday & the sevl. Matters laid before me I am now to Ansr. you & I desire your attention thereto. — It gives me much pleasure to find that what you say corresponds so Exactly with what had been laid before me by the person whom you sent to attend the Congress, & that the Spirit of it was perfectly Conformable to my advice, & to the Measures which it was your Interest to pursue — I consider this not only as a proof of yr. Wisdom & friendly regard for the English

but

(4)

ness of yr. great Affection for me, which I shall always return by Candid Advice, faithfull representations of your Conduct, and plain open dealing with yourselves.

|| You may be assured that I shall lay what you desire before the Proprietors the Govr. concerned & I am convinced of your the Necessity for you & that his Govt. will contribute their endeavours for restoring peace.

I much approve of your making use of the great belt on this Occasion & I exhort the Senecas to pay the utmost regard to it for the future, as I now put my Hand to it, to prevent its falling to the Ground, & as a proof that it will be supported.

retd. the great belt.

The belt ~~you~~ the Ohio Senecas recd. from Govr. Penn was undoubtedly for pacific purposes, but the unhappy troubles that succeeded soon after did not admit of their proper taking any resolution thereon. || I persuade yourself with the Resolutions now come [illegible] & I shall be glad [illegible] the [illegible] you expressed to me will render [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ & then ~~[illegible] it in you to take [illegible]~~ ~~[illegible] from situation that they are~~ ~~[illegible] suspicion on every occasion~~

Your next belt is a proof of what I have said to the other. You therefore find that it was the desire of your yr. Worthy Brothr. Mr. Johnson to draw your people out of temptation, that they might not be connected with those who are remote from their Interest & yr. Council fire, & I am glad to find that you have at length Complied with his long repeated advice. [illegible] [illegible] which accept [illegible] with the Intell. from Ohio

the dispute wth the [illegible] -

~~Decr 4th After which~~,

Then Col. Johnson   follows.

Brethren of the 6 Nations.—

~~Having thus far Demonstrated Affair to mutual satisfaction~~

It now remains for me to hear from you the particulars of the Message you have agreed to send to the Southward, & ~~also~~ whether you do not intend to send Messengers from each Nation therewith. — Brethn. as you have acted wisely hitherto, both in your Councils, but it will be to little purpose unless your Resolves are carried into Effect. Execution by Trustymen, who will faithfully Discharge what is Committed to them, I find by you have chosen some faithfull Spirited Men, & I hope they all will prove so, I leave you to Consider this matter & rely on your giving me a Satisfactory Ansr. — Then retired accordingly to give the The Sachs. continued in private Council, about an hour. After which Col. Johnson returned & then the Speaker Addressed him as follows —

Brother, We are thankfull to you for your good Advices, ~~which agree~~ and we can tell you we have at the last Congress acted in all respects agreeable to your Desires. The ~~Tuscarora Canajoharies~~ Mohawks have been with you for some days. The Senecas send ~~our~~ Brother now before you who has Voluntarily offer'd his Services for the public & is a Great man. The Cayugas have also made a proper Choice as have the Onondagas, & the Oneidas have Chosen Wm al! a Young Man but a Man that is brave & faithfull, & may be relied on, & so present with be properly made our Message short, having put all that was said on 13 belts [illegible] into one String to tell the Indns. to the Southward, That we have heard of their situation & after mature Deliberation we will take no part in it; as they are a Troublesome people, that they have sent them 2 Messages & [illegible] the 3d. Halt, coming there & [illegible] that [illegible] they don't [illegible]

TRANSCRIPTS 1770

I

Governor William Tryon to Earl of Hillsborough (No. 45, duplicate)[1]

1 January, Brunswick

My Lord, I am to acknowledge the honour of your lordship's duplicate, No. 27, received 28 November last. The original and duplicate of 26 and original of 27 are not yet come to hand.

I entirely subscribe to your lordship's reasonings with respect to the necessity of the colonies providing for their own security by keeping their fortifications in repair and making the necessary provision for the defence of them.

At the last Assembly I persisted in urging to the Lower House the necessity of making provision for ammunition for His Majesty's service and the defence of the province but was mortified to find by their address that the argument on which they founded their refusal was the reason why they ought to have granted an aid for that service.

I understand a great objection to a Tonnage Bill proceeds from an unwillingness to tax the vessels owned in the country. By His Majesty's instruction No. 32 (a most equitable rule) I am directed not to give my assent to any law wherein the inhabitants of North Carolina are put on a more advantageous footing than those of Great Britain etc. This prevents my passing a bill making a distinction and probably the acquisition of a partial Tonnage Bill.

The country continues in extreme want of a larger medium of trade. When His Majesty shall think fit to grant the Assembly's petition for a new emission of currency, it may be thought expedient that a stipulation be made in the grant that the paper currency now in circulation, big with mischiefs from its counterfeits, should cease to be a legal tender within a limited time after the emission of the new, and be bought up by the Treasurers with the new currency in order to be destroyed. *Signed.* [C.O.5/313, fo. 29]

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[1] Signed original in C.O.5/301, fo. 120, is dated 6 January 1770. Entry, in C.O.5/328, p. 175, is dated 1 January.

II

George Croghan to Lieut.-General Thomas Gage[1]

1 January, Philadelphia

Sir, since I came to this place I have had several letters from Fort Pitt, Detroit and from several traders in the Indian country, all agreeing that the Indians behaved very quietly late in the fall before they went out a 'hunting, but every person who has wrote to me observes that they have been very constant in private councils and very reserved to their most intimate friends amongst the traders and have been purchasing up powder and lead all fall for their peltry, and likewise offering their horses for ammunition, which is very uncommon, and I think discovers a design of an open rupture in the spring. They purchased no goods from any of the traders but ammunition, of which they are laying up great quantities.

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[1] Enclosure to Gage's letter to Hillsborough, 21 February 1770: Vol. I, No. 139.

A party of the Ohio, Senecas, Shawanese and Delawares, have been this fall at Detroit and had a private council in the Huron village with the Hurons, Chipawas, Ottawas and Putiwatimies, in which council they complained to these nations, saying the English had made a large purchase of lands from the Six Nations, and that the Six Nations had shamefully taken all the money and goods to themselves and not shared any part thereof with them though the most part of the country which was sold was their hunting-ground down the Ohio, and that by that sale a great number of their people which have lived on the East and West Branches of Susquehannah have been so encroached upon by new settlements that they have no hunting-grounds left, and requested of the Hurons to give their people some lands near Guiqaliaga to plant and hunt on, and that they would go and remove them from the Susquehannah. This request the Hurons granted and gave them a large belt of wampum, and Mr McKee who is just come down from Wioming and Fort Augusta saw the Indians that came from the Ohio to take all the Shawanese and Delawares away from the branches of the Susquahannah who told him their business, and he saw about fifty families set off with them and the rest is to go early in the spring.

At this meeting in the Huron village, the Hurons, Chipawas, Ottawas and Putiwatimies agreed to confirm a peace with the Cherokees as soon as they return from amongst the Six Nations, which I think must be detrimental to the public interest.

Mr McKee says that the Indians he met upon Susquehannah from the Ohio spoke of the Six Nations with great disrespect and resentment, and calls them the slaves of the white people, that in the beginning of the late war they were as humble as dogs to the French, and that now they were the same to the English for what they could get, and yet when they came amongst the western nations, they spoke the worst they could of them and was always breeding quarrels between their nations and the English.

Mr McKee will set off this week for Fort Pitt and I have prepared some council-belts to send with him and a letter to Captain Edmonstone with speeches to the several tribes. Mr McKee, who was formerly commissary there, understands the several languages and knows their customs and manners and has an influence with them, will I hope be able to find out what they are determined on in the spring. I have wrote to Sir William Johnson and given him an account of everything that came to my knowledge. *Copy.* [C.O.5/88, fo. 44]

11

Major-General Thomas Gage to Earl of Hillsborough (No. 39)

6 January, New York

My Lord, I have had the honour of your lordship's letter No. 23, which containing no particular commands, I am to wait some future opportunity to know His Majesty's pleasure on the contents of the several dispatches of which your lordship is pleased to acknowledge the receipt.

Potestm. to me, Col Johnson & Lt. Col Frey for Administering the Oaths to all officers Now appointed or hereafter in the County Nothwithstanding which I am informed that Col. Ranslaer & his friends have lately gone about with Commissions & had sevl of his Officers Sworn in down the Country.

I shall be glad to find that the Resolutions of the Commissioners for Concerting the plan for Indian Trade may be such as will Answer the importance of the Object, but the Expence necessary for the Execution of a proper plan and the differing sentiments & Interests of Colonies will I fear render it of little use.

At your Leisure I shall be very happy to hear from you on these Subjects and remain with great truth & Affection

Dear Sir,
&ca

The Honble Lieut Govr. Colden.

THE SAME TO LORD HILLSBOROUGH.

Johnson hall, Feby 10th 1770.

My Lord

In my last of 26th August (No 11) I gave your Lordship an account of my Journey thro' the Country of the Six Nations to Seneca, with my proceedings at Sundry Conferences with the Indians, & acquainted you that Deputies were arrived from the Cherokees to request a meeting with the Six Nations & Canada Confederacys at Onondaga, which has since taken place, agreable to their desire, the result of which I waited for, as Judging it might be necessary for his Majestys Information. At this Congress the Cherokees Spoke on 20 belts to the Six Nations to renew & Strengthen the late Treaty of peace entered into between them and earnestly to request that in Consequence thereof the Six Nations should unite their Arms with them in order to attack sevl of the Southern and Western Nations who had acted as Enemys to both, after some time spent in deliberation, the Six Nations returned for Answer, That before they cod come to any resolution agreable to their former engagements they must first Conferr with me on the Subject, to which end they would take care of their Calumets & belts, & Send Deputys to me to desire a General Congress in my presence, & accordingly their Deputies have since come here with some of the Cherokees, earnestly requesting on the part of the Whole that I would as speedily as possible Assemble the Whole Confederacy, and after hearing what they had to say give them My advice and opinion on the subject, to Support their request, they observed that we were as much Interested as themselves in the matter having suffered repeated Insults from these people, as they Instanced in Mr Croghans being attacked & made prisoner by them on his way to Ilinois, & in their attacks upon our Traders on *Ohio*. In short I observed that they were much inclined to Unite & attack those people, which gave me the more Concern because I knew that when Indians were resolved on War, if they could be diverted from their favorite pursuit they would be apt to turn their Arms another way, perhaps against ourselves, besides I was sensible of the great Expense that must attend such a Congress altho' of their own proposing and that wh cod be spared out of the fund allowed for the Department could not defray the Charge of so large & unexpected a Congress, In this situation I Consulted Genl Gage who is of opinion that as any Sum that can be spared out of the Annual Allowance, will be inadequate to the Expense that may attend it, I should first obtain his Majestys Orders for that purpose, but as the Indian Depys are very pressing, & that it will not be in my power to have an Answer within sufficient time to satisfy their importunity, whilst on the other hand I cannot refuse their request without occasioning a Genl Discontent amongst them I have resolved to Treat with some of the Chiefs only with all the Oeconomy I possibly can consistent with the public Safety, trusting that his Majesty will be graciously pleased, to consider the peculiarity of the Occasion, & not suffer me to be a Loser Thro' the Necessary Discharge of my Duty.

It is a disagreeable Circumstance that we must either agree to permit these people to Cut each others Throats, or risque their discharging their fury on Our Traders & defenceless Frontiers, for certain I am from the disposition they are in & from the Conduct of the back settlers the Latter may prove the Case, but however disagreeable the Alternative is, Common policy & our own Safety requires it, and under such Circumstances I shall endeavor to govern myself in the manner that appears best Calculated for the Gen^{l} Security of all his Majestys Subjects here.

The Situation of Affairs Since I had last the Honor of addressing your Lordship on these subjects has not Varied materially Altho' the Severity of the Season & the Embassy from the Cherokees keep them at present quiet, yet the Motives for their discontent Still Subsist, and the Lawless conduct of the frontier Inhabitants is the same whenever an Opportunity offers, so that the Event depends upon Circumstances that are as hard to forsee as to prevent, and as there is no prospect of any Imediate remedy to be applied for these disorders, & the Licentiousness of some of our own people, my Endeavors Must be directed to prevent Their operation on the minds of the Indians till a more favorable period when the Orders of Government will be treated with more respect, and the people brought to a better sense of their Duty.

The Rt honble
The Earl of Hillsborough

LORD HILLSBOROUGH TO SIR W^{M}. JOHNSON.

Whitehall April 14th. 1770.

SIR,

I have received and laid before the King your Dispatch of the 10th of Febr^{y} N^{o}. 12.

The matter proposed to the Confederacy of the six Nations by the Cherokees is of great Importance; and it is with Concern His Majesty observes that the answer to be given to the Cherokees is made to depend upon your opinion and advice, by which the King will stand committed in measures which, if they adopt the proposition of a War against the Southern & Western Indians, are irreconcileable with the principles of humanity, and if on the contrary they tend to union of Indian Interests and Politicks, endanger the Security of His Majesty's Colonies by enabling the Savages to turn their Arms against Us.

This consequence however, which you seem to think would follow from discouraging a War against the Southern and Western Indians, is certainly to be avoided if possible, and therefore the King, however unwillingly, cannot but approve of your adopting the Alternative, and making the security of His Subjects and the Peace of the Frontiers, the principal Object of your attention at the Congress, but it would be most pleasing to His Majesty if it could be attained without encouraging the Savages in their barbarous attacks on each other.

It would have been more fortunate, upon every consideration, that this Congress could have been avoided, not only as it does in it's consequences involve His Majesty as a Party in a Business of so disagreeable a nature, but also as it will, I find, be attended with an expence beyond what your stated allowance will admit of.

The King however relies upon your assurances on the one hand that this Expence is unavoidable, and, on the other, that the Service shall be conducted with all Frugality and Œconomy that is possible, consistent with the public Safety; and, under these assurances, His Majesty approves of your

There has been likewise an Action lately commenced against him for doing what was his Duty as Commissary. In which Suit I am become his Bail. The Case lyes before the Attorney General, and can be explained to You in such a Manner, as will I dare say entitle him to y^{r}. Protection, As it could not but fall verry hard on any Man who has been active in his Office to want protection against those Persons who now take advantage of his Dismission to deter others from doing their Duty hereafter, and he has been already at the Expence & trouble of Several Attendances on Court in consequence of the letigious Action.

I am with great Truth & Regard

Dear Sir
Your most Obedient
& Affec^{tt}. Humble Servant
W. JOHNSON

His Excellency
GENERAL GAGE —

INDORSED:

S^{r}. W^{m}. Johnson Bar^{t}.
Jan^{ry}. 30th. 1770
Rec^{d}. [*Jan^{ry}.*] *Feb^{ry}. 7th.*
answered —

TO BARENT VROOMAN

A. L. S.[1]

Feb^{ry}. 2^{d}. 1770 —

M^{R}. VROOMAN —

Last Night Three Indians from Scohare Arrived here with Wampum from their whole Castle as they say. Declaring that they will by no means part with the Lands they now live on & improve; & they seem to be verry much alarmed at your proposing a Meeting at y^{r}. House in a private manner, & forbidding them to make it known to Me, or the Mohawks &^{ca}. — now if that be true, as they say, it realy looks odd. — When You spoke to me about it, I told You that in case they the Indians agreed voluntarily amongst themselves to part with it, and that you would Satisfy them, for the Same, I should have no Objection, and would in that Case so far befriend You, as to speak to the Conajoharees for a place of Settlement for them. — But by those Indians, I find they are entirely averse to parting with it, in so much that their Expression on the occasion this Morning Was, that they would as Soon loose their Heads as give up the Land. — As this is y^e^. case I dont think it proper that they should be pressed any more to it, least the consequences might be prejudicial to that Settlement in particular, or to his Majestys Interest in general. —

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Claus Papers, Vol. I.

If You have any agreement in Writing (made at the time of Patenting y^e^. Land) concerning y^e^. Indian Flats where they live, and will let me see them, I will do You all the Justice in my power. As I am

Y^r^. Welwisher
& Humble Serv^t^.
W JOHNSON

BAR^T^. VROMAN

CONFERENCE WITH CAYUGAS

D.[1]

[*Johnson Hall, Feb. 18, 1770*]

The Cayugas from Owegy (who had been concerned in committing hostilities, for which they Expressed great sorrow) came to Johnson-hall to the Number of Six and on the 18^th^. Feb^y^. had an Interview with Sir Wm. at which the rest were present —

Present
Sir Wm Johnson Bart.
Guy Johnson Esq^r^. Dep^y^. Agent
J Butler Esq^r^. Interpreter
— addressed Sir W^m^. as follows

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Indian Records, Vol. 9. In Guy Johnson's hand.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

I hope you'll Excuse our coming at this time contrary to your desire, as it was done with a good intention, to shew you the sincerity of our Reformation, & to acquit ourselves of the crimes laid to our charge, we therefore with this String, clear your Sight that you may once more look upon us as your Brethren, & open the passage to your heart that you may give attention to what we say, & be able to speak to us. & we also wipe away the blood & Cleanse the Council Room that we may meet therein as formerly. —

3 Strings —

Brother,

I am now to acquaint you with the occasion of our coming down, & the cause of our late bad behavior, — You may recollect it was told you at a public meeting last Summer that all the Indians so far down the Susquehanna, as *Owegy* were your Friends & they were really so at that time, but, Brother, we were a few people unfortunately situated amongst many of your Enemys, who were daily passing that way with the Axe, ag^t. you, this at length induced a few of our young people (instigated doubtless by the Devil) to joyn them & do some mischief of which they are all now unfeignedly sorry convinced that they have done Wrong, and I am now to inform you that we are all unanimously determined forever hereafter to hold fast the Covenant Chain, & live in peace & friendship with the English, and this [*their*] our resolutions [*are*] you may firmly rely on. —

A Belt 7 Rows —

Brother,

Alas! we have been very uneasy since the commencement of hostilities, of which we heartily repented in a Short time, & on serious reflection were convinced we were seduced by the Evil Spirit to do Wrong, [*but*] which determined us imediately to come to you [*and*] to desire forgiveness, & offer our services, and we now assure you that we do so sincerely, that we have [*24*] 22 Warriors, who are all at your Service, & Whom you may make use of in any manner whatsoever as some reparation for our late behavior. —

A belt 6 Rows —

Brother,

Our Women have spoken to our Warriors on this Bunch of Women,[2] Thanking them for the[*ir*] good resolutions they have entred into, & recommending it to them to persevere therein, & to observe the same forever; as for their parts, they have been always your Friends, & will always continue, & desire to assure you that we all to the Ammount of 46 — Men, Women & Children, will always remain your Friends —

A bunch of black & White Wampum

Brother,

In consequence of our repentance & resolutions, we have now taken the Axe out of your head, & acquainted you [*of*] that there are 22 Warriors at your service; and we declare it to be our determined design, to take the Axe with wch some of us have struck you & turn it against your Enemys, & those who were the principal authors of our bad behavior and we assure these our Warriors are ready to follow whatever you desire in order to procure a Salve for the Wound you have received —

3 Strings.

to which Sir William Gave them the following Answer

Warriors of Cayuga,

I could wish it was in my power to call you by the name of Brothers, under which Denomination I have always treated with your Nation. —

The Excuses you make for your late bad behavior are very insufficient & unsatisfactory; those who are true Friends to the English can never be led away [*by*] under such frivolous pretences, nor can I accept of or rely on the promises of people who are so easily persuaded to become our Enemys.

These Apologys will never do, nor ever satisfy the much injured English, and therefore I must tell you that I cannot admit of your repentance unless you convince me of its sincerity by going imediately against our Enemys who you say were the cause of your defection, and bring me at the least, as many Scalps as they took at that time, and this I desire you will imediately perform as the only means of reinstating you in our Friendship.

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[2] Should read "wampum."

A belt —

To which they Answered, That they would imediately comply with his desire, and would go against the *Beaver* whom with his people you would destroy, as they were the Authors of all the Mischief —

TO HENRY VAN SCHAACK

A.L.S.[1]

Johnson Hall, Febry. 22d. 1770

Sir —

I have received your last letter of the 16th.[2] & Col. Johnson[3] shewed me yours to him with ye. Coppy of the Petition which I think a verry good one. —

From the appearance of things at this time, I think it best that You without delay transmit me a List of ye. most fitting Persons for Military Commissions, which I would have Signed by a Number of the principal Inhabitants of your Township, and shall be glad to receive it by the middle of next Week at farthest, that no time be lost in getting these Matters settled in the manner most agreable to Justice, and the Desires of the People. —

Whatever delays the Col. may make about the return of the Regiment, it is in the Lt. Governors power to render them of little use to him, by putting matters on the footing that has been recommended as most necessary in Such case. —

I shall recommend You, & Mr. Vosburgh[4] to be put into the Commission of the Peace, which I dare say will be attended to, and I almost forgot to tell You that I should be glad You'd send me a List of the principal Inhabitants on the West side of the

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[1] In Newberry Library, Chicago, Van Schaack Papers.

[2] *Johnson Papers*, 7:393-94.

[3] Guy Johnson.

[4] Peter Vosburgh.

Hudsons River from the Patroons Bounds, to the South Line of Albany County including Cocksaky[5] &ca. —

My best Compliments to Mrs. Vanschaack, & acquaint her that I have a quantity of Garden Seeds on board the Sharps Sloop, with other Articles, which I have not been able to get up as yet, whenever I do, I shall remember my promise about them. Col. Johnson desires to be remembered to You thanks You for yr. last, wh. he has not time to answer now. & indeed I am so hurried that I have only time to Assure you of my best wishes, & that I am

Yrs. Sincerely

HENRY VANSCHAACK Esqr. — W JOHNSON

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A.L.S.[1]

Johnson Hall Febry. 22d. 1770

DEAR BANYAR —

I have Just received yr. favour of the 12th. Inst.[2] and thank You for the Copies of the Boundaries, and the List of Justices as intended, (some of whom have been put in, & others put out thro mere partiality, the case of Mr. Man is one Instance of ye. latter among many.) the latter I could have wished to have received sooner, as I might have transmitted 'ere now a List of the Persons I know to be most fitting for Justices, which I must now defer Sending 'till the next Post, when it shall be forwarded. —

As I foresee the necessity of Expediting the Land affairs, So soon as the Deed comes up I shall have the necessary Certificates wrote on it agreable to your directions, the Circumstances attending the purchase can be all fully cleared up, and I made use of the Sworn Interpreter, *Arent Stevens* on the occasion. —

You will find from the Dedimus Issued to me that it is for qualifying all officers, now, or hereafter to be appointed in

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[5] Coxsackie.

[1] In New York Historical Society, Banyar Papers.

[2] Not found.

The Cayugas from Owegy who had been concerned in committing hostilities of which they express'd great sorrow came to Johnson hall in the Number of Six and on the 18th Feby had an interview with Sir Wm at which the rest were present

Present

Sir Wm Johnson Bart.
Guy Johnson Esqr. Depy Agent
J. Butler Esqr. Interpreter

addressed Sir Wm as follows

Brother Warraghiyagey.

We hope you'll Excuse our coming at this time down to your house, as it was done with a good intention, to shew you the sincerity of our Reformation & to acquit ourselves of the crimes laid to our charge we therefore with this String, clear your sight that you may once more look upon us as your Brethren, & open the passage to your heart that you may give attention to what we say, & be able to speak true & we also wiping the blood & Change the Council Room that we may meet therein as formerly.

3 Strings

Brother,

I am now to acquaint you with the occasion of our coming down, & the cause of our late bad behavior, — You may recollect it was told you at a public meeting last Summer that all the Indians so far down the Susquehanna as Owegy were your Friends, & they were really so at that time but, Brother, we were a few people unfortunately situated amongst many of your Enemies, who were daily passing that way with the Axe against you, this at length induced a few of our young people (instigated doubtless by the Devil) to join them & to do some mischief of which they are all now unfeignedly sorry convinced that they have done Wrong, and I am now to inform you that we are

all

firmly determined for ever hereafter to hold fast the Covenant Chain, & live in peace & friendship with the English and that these our resolutions ~~[illegible]~~ you may firmly rely on

A Belt 7 Rows—

Brother,

Alas! we have been very unruly since the commencement of hostilities, of which we heartily repented in a short time, & on serious reflection were convinced we were seduced by the Evil Spirit to do Wrong, ~~[illegible]~~ which determined us unanimously to come to you to ~~[illegible]~~ desire forgiveness, & offer our Services and we now assure you that we do so sincerely, that we have 22 Warriors, who are all at your Service, & whom you may make use of in any manner whatsoever as some reparation for our late behavior—

A Belt 6 Rows

Brother,

Our Women have spoken to our Warriors on the Bunch of Women Thanking them for their good resolutions they have entered into, & recommending it to them to persevere therein, & to observe the same forever, as for their part they have been always your Friends, & will always continue, & desire to assure you that we all to the Ammount of 46— Men, Women, & Children, will always remain your Friends—

A Bunch of black & white Wampum

Brother,

In consequence of our repentance & resolutions we have now taken the Axe out of your head & acquainted you of that there are 22 Warriors at your service, and we declare it to be our determined design to take the Axe with which some of us have struck you, & turn it against your Enemys, & those who were the principal authors of our bad behavior. and we assure that our Warriors are ready to follow whatever you desire in order to procure a Salve for the Wound you have received—

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To which Sr William Gave the

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I could not [illegible] in my power to call you by the of Brothers, under which Denomination I have always treated with yo Nation —

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A Belt

To which they Answered, That they would imediately comply with his desire, and would go against the Beaver whom with his young you would destroy as they were the Authors of all the mischief —

TO THOMAS GAGE

Df.[1]

[*Johnson Hall, April 6, 1770*]

[ ]
[ ] favour of yours with the Letters from [ ] the pipe therein mentioned I have had a [de]scription of it from sev^l. and find it does not [ ] by him. The principal of the Cherokees on this [embassy is a m]an of some Consequence well known to be Such [ ] the Indians & furnished with belts from all the Tribes, [ ] the known Caution of Indians in these Matters, and their [apprehe]nsion that probably they would have been dissuaded from their [ ] I am not at all Surprized at their Concealing part of their [object] from M^r. Stuart, which certainly is principally with a design [of] an Alliance for carrying on a War against some of [the We]stern Indians &ca[2], & this is admitted in a great measure in Camerons Letter, but that it is not against the Chactaws, now [I am] induced to think that the Chactaws are not the people the [Chero]kees have for their object; but that that comes from the [Six Na]tions inclination to carry on a War against them rather than [again]st the Western Ind^s. but be this circumstance as it will a Union [to carry] on War in Conjunction is the principal Object of their [Embass]y. I should by all means inform you that I have rec^d. [the] Intelligence which I think I can rely on, That the Kickapous, [Piankash]aws & Wawiaghtonos with some others do intend In the [ ] of summer or sooner to attempt the reduction of the Ilinois, this I [ ] many Circumstances from some Indians of credit [confid]ence

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[1] In Guy Johnson's handwriting.

[2] *See* Johnson to Hillsborough, February 10, 1770, in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 8:203–4.

which they repose in me & which has induced them [ ] thing the discovery of [ ] the publick & therefore I have no reason [ ] material shod. [ ] [ ] up to the 25th. [of March?] [[1]] Exceed the Allowance [ ] it as to retrench my Expences [ ] settlement; I hope to be favor[ed] Ammount of the Accts now sent and [ ] Esteem Dear Sir, &ca

Mr. Croghan tells me that on his representation of their Necessity you were pleased to desire the Continuance of the Smiths at Fort Pitt, & Detroit, in Consequence of which he has sent me an Acct of their[2] pay, to be transmitted to you, as you were pleased to say you would take upon you that expence.—

Goods for Indn. presents being (by the new agreement amongst the Trading People) Scarce & dear, in so much that I am great[ly] any, I will therefore be glad to have a Credit [ ] wherewith to purchase in England Su[ch as are] most wanted, & necessary for carrying on [ ] Department, and that in time, So as [ ] be here by the latter end of summer.

TO JOHN BRADSTREET

A. Df.

[*Johnson Hall April 6, 1770*]

[ ] favored with your Letter concerning [some money] formerly advanced to Capt. Thos. Butler in [1756[3] for whi]ch I have looked over all my papers & books [at le]ngth find in one of my old Books of Account [en]try

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[1] Several lines missing.

[2] From this point the letter is in Johnson's handwriting.

[3] Date supplied from Johnson Calendar, p. 451.

in the Year 1757 ["*March 14th*[1]] To Capt. Phil. [Schuyler] Capt Bradstreets Letter & by order of Lord Loudon the sum of ["]

I have not been able to discover any thing else relative [ ] from the Multifarious business of my Department [and] other particulars There are indeed Many of my papers & [ ] &ca of that period Still remaining at Fort Johnson[2], which [I have not] removed to this place as Judging I should have little or no [ ] to recurr to them, These I have not had an opportunity [of exam]ining since the rect. of your Letter, but, as the above Entry [ ] my Book of Public Expences for that period I apprehend [will] Sufficiently clear up the matter for I have always [been] Carefull to make no Charge or Entry that could not be [ ]

Col. Johnson acquainted you sometime ago about [ ] the flatts, which I find are estimated beyond their [ ] at present I see no prospect of coming to any terms [ ] with them in the manner I could have wished for

[ ] with Much Esteem

Sir

Etc.

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

A. L. S.

April 8th 1770

[Yeste]rday I was feavard. with boath [your] honors Leters by the Mandring [gentle]man you Menshon whome I know well. [I am] Greatly oblidgd. to you for ye. Truble [you] have Taken to procure Me ye. Mony [I wan]ted & was aperehensife itt wold [be dif]fecult to be gott as I well Know [ye. scarce]ty of Mony Every where I am [not] the first that has been dipt in law So it hope they will be found worthy.— Mr. Banyar has given me an Account of Mr. Ranslears[1] Menacing letter, on which I have answered him, and referr You thereto, The Stile is pritty extraordinary, I am sure it is not his own, nor would he have so expressed himself but from hopes his party may have from Lord Dunmores Countenance, which, if proper measures are taken, they will never have.— the great Objection to his Regiment is from the manifest Tendency of its Bounds as expressed in the Commission, Tho the People complain both of the Officers & the Manner in which they were appointed, otherwise Indeed it might have been Sufficient to alter the Boundary without removing all the Officers, however he now deserves little favour.—I fancy it will not be an easy task to procure an Union of Sentiment between the Quebec & N York Commissioners. Their Interests differ greatly, and consequently it may be apprehended they will do verry little.

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[1] Crossed out in the original.

[2] Cf. I:xiv, History of the Manuscripts.

In All probability the Government will soon allow the Act for Emitting Bills,— they ought always to acknowledge Your Services, & the firmness you shewed in most alarming Periods, If the Crown Expects more, Its Servants must be better Supported, The Spirit of Party, & Confusion of the Times are disagreable Prospects to a Wise Man, Some Vigorous Effort only will overcome them, but the point is delicate, & those who create these Disorders well know, how tender it is to apply the proper Remedy.

I shall now & then write my Dear Freind, when I think him most disengaged without desireing a Return but when it is quite convenient. I sincerely wish You a Continuance of Health & Happiness, and shall always think myself happy If I can promote your Interest and contribute to your Satisfaction, being with the most Cordial regard, & affection. Dear Sir,

Your Most Sincere Freind
& oblidged Humble Servant
W Johnson

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[1] Colonel John Van Rensselaer, of the Claverack militia.

FROM JOHN BRADSTREET

A. L. S.

Sunday Morning [*May 6 1770*]

[ ]

As I am now ready and intend soon to apply to the Governor & Council to appoint a day for obliging the Patentees of the Patent commonly call'd the Hardenbergh Patent to make good their claim;[1] I am on my way to Colonel Butler to obtain from him a Certificate that the Lands was agreed for before the signing the late Treaty at Fort Stanwix; and must beg the favor to know from You, if you have any objections to is[2] giving said Certificate or otherwise.

I have let Schuyler see your letters; and he assures me on his honor, he never wrote nor spoke to your disadvantage in his life.

I am with much esteem & regard
Sir
Your most obedient
&
very humble servant
JN BRADSTREET

SIR W^{M} JOHNSON Bar^{t}

INDORSED:[3] May 6th 1770 —
Co^{l}. Bradstreets letter

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[1] See *Calendar of Land Papers*, pp. 500, 508, 518, 520, 524, 525 *et seq.*

[2] Evidently intended for "his."

[3] In Johnson's hand.

Proceedings at a Treaty with the Six Nations, the Indians of Canada, the several Dependant Tribes, and the Deputies from the Cherokee Nation, held at the upper Settlements, near the German Flatts in July 1770 by Sir William Johnson Baronet. —

On Sunday the 15th. of July 1770 Sir William Johnson, Accompanied by Colonel Daniel Claus, Colonel Guy Johnson Depy. Agents, Richard Shuckburgh Esquire Secretary for Indian Affairs, and several other Gentn. from the Neighbouring Settlements, set out from Johnson Hall, and on Monday the 16th., Arrived at the Place for holding the Treaty, where were Aſsembled, about 1600 Indians, and many more yet Expected. —— At 2 P. M. the Speaker of the Six Nations, Came to Sir Williams Quarters to be Informed when they should make their first Visit, and whether they should Come in a Body, or each Nation Separately; to which Sir William Answered, that, as the House in which he Resided, was too Small to Admit them, he would Cause a Large Arbour to be made in the Field, where he woud receive them all the next Morning. —— At 6 P. M 80 Indians arrived from Onoghquagey, and other Villages on the Branch of Susquahanna, the Chiefs of whom waited on Sir William, who after the usual Ceremony, ordered them Provisions, and sent them to their Quarters. —— In the Evening 16 Algonkins &c arrived, who informed Sir William, that they had left seven Canoes of Chipaweighs near Oswego, on their way to the Congreſs.–

Tuesday the 17th.–

The Bunt Chief of Onondaga, with the Speaker of that Nation, waited on Sir William early in the Morning, and acquainted him, that their Head Warrior Diaquanda had refused to Attend to Busineſs, & Encamped with another Nation, which gave them all Concern, & would greatly interrupt their Proceedings; but as he was Sir William's particular friend, and much under his Influence, hoped, that he would make use of it to persuade him to Return to them. —

Sir William gave them a Gracious Answer, and aſsured them, that he would use his Influence to that End. –

Sir William accordingly sent for Diaquanda, & after some Discourse, at length persuaded him to Join, and aſsist his Nation in Council, for which he Received their Sincere thanks. ——

The Indians not being all Aſsembled as yet, Sir William Received Visits from the Chiefs, and held Several Private Meetings with the Principal Men of each Nation, from whom he received much usefull, and Interesting Information, respecting the Sentiments and present Disposition of the Indians. ——

In the Evening the old Sachems of Onoghquagey came to Sir William's Quarters to acquaint him of Thomas King's (one of their Chiefs) having some days ago unfortunately killed a Young Tuscarora, for which he was so much Concerned, that he determined to Return the next Day to the Village, where he Committed the Murder, and Submit himself to the Will of the Friends of the deceased. —— Sir William told them, that he was extremely Sorry for the death of their friend, desiring them to tell Thomas King, that he would talk with him on that Subject, and Contribute his Endeavors, that the Affair might be amicably Accomodated. —

At a Congreſs held at the German Flatts
On Wednesday July the 18th 1770. —

Present —

(The Honoble Sir William Johnson Bart. — Super-Intendant
Col. Daniel Claus }
Col. Guy Johnson } (Depy. Agents —
Richard Shuckburgh Esqr. — Secy. for Indian Affairs
John Butler Esquire — Interpr.
Capt. Norman McLeod — of the late 80th Regimt.
Capt. Michael Byrne —
Hanjt. Harkemer Esqr. — And several other Gentn. and Inhabitants from the Settlements, with the following Nations of Indians. —

Six Nations —

Six Nations. (4)

Mohawks of the three Villages	209	Oneidas	232
Onondagas	250	Cayugas	269
Senecas	354	Tuscaroras	132

Ganaghsaragues	115	their Depend^ts
Onoghquageys	124	
Nanticoks and Conoys	193	
Tuteloes	78	

From Canada

Cagnawageys & the Ind^s of S^t Regis	78	Ganagsadagas	11
Algonkins	8	Hurons of Lorell	2
Abenaquis S^t Francis	2	Nipisinks	7
		River Indians	2
		Deputies from Cheroke Nat^n	7

An Ottowa Chief called Okaysowess from Michilimacnac—

All these were joined by 26 Missages, and 230 Ind^s. of the Several Nations, during the Treaty am^td in the whole to 2320 Ind^s.

Being all seated, Saghtaghroana a Chief of S^t Regis stood up, and said, that agreable to the Summons they had Received, there were now Aſsembled the Chiefs of the Seven Nations of Canada in Order to Attend the Congreſs. — then Returned the String of Invitation. — Then Conoquieson a Chief of Oneida Stood up on behalf of the Six Nations, and said. —

Brother Warraghiyagey. —

We are very happy to see you here this day at our particular Request. — You know, Brother, that, when the Deputies who are now here from the Cherokee Nation, first came to our Fire place at Onondaga to Request on behalf of their Nation, that we should join them in Making War upon the troublesome People who were their Enemies and from whom our selves have Received Several Insults, As it was an Affair of Importance which required much Deliberation, tho' Inclined to agree to their Desires, yet as none of our Confederacy from Canada were present, And as we had given you Aſsurances that we should not Enter into any Engagements without your Concurrence, and Approbation, We thought it most fitting to Send Deputies to you requesting you would Aſsemble the Whole of our Confederacy, that we might Confer together thereon. — Brother, We are very thankfull that you have Complied with our Request, as People in Alliance should do, and we are now to Acquaint you, that, agreeable to the Belts & Meſsages Sent amongst us, we are all now met here from Ohio to Canada, to a considerable Number; And I do now on behalf of all those Nations here Aſsembled, take you by the hand, sincerely Wellcoming you to this place, where we have kindled up a fire & where I hope the Buſineſs we meet upon, will go on to our mutual Satisfaction.

Gave — — three Strings. —

Then after Acquainting the Indians of the Death of an Oneida Child since they left their Village, he proceeded

Brother. — Agreeable to the antient Custom established by our wise

Forefathers, that whenever we meet, we should mutually Condole each Other for our Loſses, and as we Suppose that you have doubtleſs Sustained some since our last Interview, we do now agreeable to this laudable Practice Condole with you for the Same. We Open your Eyes that you may look Chearfully. We Open your Ears that you may hear us, and Clear your Throats that you may Speak freely to us. — We likewise Gather the Bones of the deceased of your People, & bury them deep, carefully Covering the Grave from your Sight. And We once more kindle the fire at this place, and Sweep out all the Dust from the Council Chamber that nothing may Obstruct us in our Buſineſs

3 Strings

Then Thomas King on behalf of the Warriors of the Six Nations arose, & Said

Brother—

I take this Opportunity on behalf of all the Warriors of the Six Nations, and their Confederates now aſsembled, to let you know that we are not well pleased with our Sachems, for neglecting to acquaint us with what they purposed to say this Morning, and for not giving you our particular thanks for Calling, and Meeting us this day, as the Occasion of this Aſsembly is principally on *our* Accounts upon a Matter in which, *we* as Warriors are particularly Interested. — And, they well know it, for, *there* are the Men (pointing to the Cherokee Chiefs) whose Buſineſs they all know is chiefly to us the Warriors to Invite us to Engage against their troublesome Neighbours, with whose Conduct we are likewise much Diſsatisfied. — I do, therefore with this Belt, at the desire, and on the part of all the Warriors here aſsembled from Canada to Ohio, and of the Cherokee Deputies, take you now by the hand in the most friendly manner, kindly thanking you for complying with our Request in Calling us together, and giving you a most hearty Wellcome to this place, where we are all happy to find that you are arrived in Safety—

A Belt of 5 Rows

Then Tagawara an Oneida Chief stood up on the part of Sir William Johnson, and first Addressed the Indians of Canada as follows.

Brothers of the Seven Nations of Canada.—

I am very glad to See you all here this Day agreeable to Summons. It is a Proof of your Attention to the Affairs of your Confederacy, and I sincerely wellcome you upon the Occasion.—

Then Addressing the Rest, & repeating what Conoquieson said, proceeded.

Brothers.—I am glad to See you all this Day in health, and am well pleased, that in Consequence of the Circumstances you mention, you have now brought hither the Chiefs of so many Nations, & Confederate Tribes: because by them means none can plead Ignorance of our—Transactions, and the Business will go on to the Satisfaction of you all. I do therefore give thanks to Providence for permitting us to meet this Day, and Cordially take you all by the hand, bidding you a hearty Wellcome to this place.

3 Strings.—

Brothers.—

As a proof of my Regard for the wise Institution of your Ancestors, and from the Information I have Received of the Losses you have Sustained since our last Meeting. I do now on the part of his Majesty the King of Great Britain sincerely Condole with you on this melancholly Occasion. I Open your Eyes that you may Once more look with Chearfullness, and your Ears that you may hear distinctly, And I clear the Passages to your Heart that you may Speak freely its real Sentiments. I do also Gather the Bones of your dead, and I bury them in a deep Pit, carefully Covering them from your Sight, and I also Sweep, and Cleanse your Council Fire, that we may meet therein, & proceed to business without Interruption.—

Gave three Strings.—

Then after Repeating the Speech of Thomas King he Addressed the Warriors, and Cherokees as follows.—

Brothers.—

I am much Obliged, in that you have Expressed So much Desire to thank me Particularly on your parts. I Entertain a high Opinion, and Regard for you all, and by this Belt, I now take you all by the hand in the most friendly manner, giving you a very kind, and friendly Wellcome to this place, wishing that you may allways Conduct your selves with Prudence, & Attention to the true Interest of your respective Nations.—

A Belt of Six Rows—

Then Addressing the Whole, he Said.—

Brothers of the several Nations here Assembled.—

I am very glad that we have now so far prepared for Business by going through the usual Forms to mutual Satisfaction, and Shall be ready to enter on the Important Affairs for which we are assembled, on the Arrival of the rest of your People who are hourly expected. —— Then Sir William Ordered Pipes, and Tobacco to be distributed amongst them, and recommended it to the Warriors, that as he was using his Utmost Endeavors, that they Should be Supplied with what Necessarys they wanted, he Expected that they would behave with Order, and Decorum, – that they would avoid Liquor, and Committ no Violence on any of the Property of the Inhabitants.— Then Adjourned—

In the Afternoon Sir William held several private Meetings with the Chiefs in Order to Inform himself as to their Sentiments, and Resolutions at that time. —— In the Evening several of the Mohawks arrived, and Reported that the rest would Join them early to-Morrow. —— At night Sir William Called together a Sachem, and Head Warrior ~~together~~ from each of the principal Nations, with whom he held a Conference untill the Night was far advanced; of these there were Some who were much to be depended upon for their Integrity, from whom (amongst Other things of much Importance to be known previous to the Congress) he learned that the Warriors were for the much greater Part Obstinately bent on on a War with the Southern Indians. — that great part of the Sachems, convinced by the Arguments Sir William had made use of at the private Conferences, would have gladly declined it, and Seem'd disposed to Send the Cherokee Deputies back after renewing the late Treaties, and giving them farther Assurances of their friendship for that Nation, but that they very much doubted whether the Warriors could be Persuaded thereto, as they were much exasperated at the Insults which Some of the Confederacy had received from the Indians of Wabash &c. and that in Consequence of the treatment the English had Received from these Nations, the Warriors Expected, not Only their Concurrence, but their Aid, and Assistance to carry it on in like manner as they had formerly Assisted the English. —

Sir William further Learned, that there were Some Other very Interesting Points to be Spoken upon at the Congress, on all which he had much Conversation with those present, using his Utmost Endeavors to procure a favorable Issue to the Congress, and Endeavoring all in his Power to Avoid their making any Requisition of Aid from the English Should it So happen that a War must take place. —

Thursday July 19th 1770

Early in the Morning the Remainder of the Mohawks Arived.

The Chiefs of the Canada Indians in Consequence of the Murder of three of the Six Nations formerly at Oswegatchy on which they had never Condoled, Aſsembled at Sir William's Quarters, and after calling together the rest of the Indians, proceeded to the Bower, where the Seven Nations of Canada, after premising the Occasion of their Meeting then, and that they could not with propriety Unite in Measures untill they had Obeyed the Institutions of their Ancestors, by performing in the fullest manner the Ceremony of Condolance for those Loſses, & giving the neceſsary Belts &c. to the Six Nations on that Occasion. — This having taken up the greatest part of the Fore noon, the Chiefs of the Six Nations Informed him that they would consider on an answer, and accordingly withdrew to a private Council Place to Deliberate thereon. —

About Noon four Canoes with 26 Miſsiſsages from the North side of Lake Ontario Came to Camp to Attend the Congreſs. —

Sir William having Judged it highly neceſsary, as well from the Temper of the Indians, the Greatneſs of their Number, and the Disorders they are too liable to Committ, when in Liquor, Advised the Magistrates to give Notice to the Traders &c. by no means to Sell them any, untill the Congreſs was Ended; and it was done previous to his Arrival: but having this day received Information that some Traders &c. had Actually Sold them a Keg of Rum, and that Others had Resolved to follow ~~their~~ this Example, which greatly Alarmed the Inhabitants, and Occasioned their Applications to him to Check it, he Issued a Notification under his hand & Seal which he Sent throughout the whole Settlement by a Peace Officer strictly forbidding them at their Peril to Sell any Rum to the Indians, or any Spirituous Liquors whatsoever during the Congreſs, untill they had removed, when they might Sell it to them beyond the Settlements; the Apprehensions of the Inhabitants being very great, as from the Temper Shewn by many of the Warriors, they had Reason to dread, that neither their Property, or Persons would be secure Should they get Liquor amongst them. —

The Six Nations after sometime Spent in Council, returned to the publick Council place, and after Returning thanks to the Indians of Canada performed the Ceremony of Condolance, and gave the usual Belts to them in Return. —

In the Afternoon, the Indians being in Readineſs, waited on on Sir William; when the future Proceedings of the day being regulated, and Resolved upon, they proceeded to the Bower, where Abraham chief of the Mohawks Acquainted the Rest with the Buſineſs then to be entred upon, after which Teyawarunte Speaker of the Six Nations, did on behalf of Sir William Johnson perform the whole Ceremony of Condolance for a Mohawk Chief lately dead, a Cayuga killed by one of that Nation, and a Seneca Chief lately Drowned, and Delivered the several Belts for the several purposes on such Occasions, covering the Grave with a black Belt, they answering with a Yo-hah customary on Condolances. — The Indians after being a short time in Consultation Addreſsed Sir William by Conoquieson their Speaker, and after repeating all that he had said to them, they returned the Ceremony of Condolance in like manner, — which Ended, the Chiefs all Shook hands wth Sir Willm and the rest of the Gentlemen, Returning him many thanks for having made their minds easy. — Then Sir William arose, and told them

that

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that he was happy to find that every thing was So far Settled to mutual Satisfaction, that there now only remained to attend to the Principal Buſineſs for which they Aſsembled; to that end he Recommended it to them to preserve Sobriety, and good Order in their Encampments, and to be in Readineſs to attend the Morning following, when he Should make them a Speech.—

Then the Cayuga Chief Arose, and Condoled for the Murder of a Tuscarora committed a few Days before by Thomas King and Covered the Grave &c. — After which Adjourned.

The Miſsiſsagaes from the North Side of Lake Ontario Arrived at Sir William's Quarters, and after the usual Salutations, told him, that being at Oswego with others of their Nation, they who were for the most part the Principal Men thought proper to attend him, on hearing that he had Opened a Congreſs with their Bretheren. —— Sir William after Expreſsing his satisfaction at Seeing them, and bidding them Wellcome, told them that he could have no Objection to their being present, but that on the Contrary he was always glad of any Opportunity of making his Tranſactions publick with all well Diſposed Indians.—

This Night, the Boats having on Board the Present for the Indians Arrived after a tedious Paſsage Occasioned by the Lowneſs of the Water at this Season.—

At a Congreſs

At a Congreſs Held at the German Flatts

On Friday July the 19th 1770 —

Present —

The Honorable Sir William Johnson Bart. Super-Intend.t

Coll. Daniel Claus }
Coll. Guy Johnson } Dep.ty Agents —
Richard Shuckburgh Esq.r — Sec.ry for Indian affairs
John Buttler Esq.r — Interpreter —
Cap.t Norman McLeod of the late 80th — Regim.t —
Coll. Hanj.st Harkemer }
Rudolph Shomaker — } Justices of the Peace —
Cap.t Michael Byrne — With the Several
nations of Indians before Mentioned —

Being all —

Being all Seated Sir William Addreſsed them as follows. —

Brothers of the Six Nations, of the Seven Nations of Canada, of the Several Dependant Tribes, — and all others here Aſsembled. Sachems, Chiefs, and Warriors.

I desire that you will Carefully Attend to the Words I have now to Say to you, it being on Matters of great Importance to you all. —— Our Brothers of the Six Nations sent Meſsages to me last Fall from their great Council Fire at Onondaga accompanied by the Cherokee Deputies here present to acquaint me, that these Deputies were Charged (as Ambaſsadors from their Nations) with Belts, Meſsages, and a Pipe to Strenghten their Alliance, & Sollicit the Aid of the Six Nations against the Piankeshaws, Wawaightonos, and Others, as a People troublesome, and Enemies to both, on which the Six Nations Could not Determine, untill agreeable to their Engagements, they had first in publick Congreſs had my Sentiments and Concurrence thereon. —— At the earnest Sollicitations of the Six Nation Meſsengers, and the Cherokee Deputies, Seconded by the Representations of Thomas King, who had accompanied them from the Cherokee Country, and the many Requests since Repeated, of the Six Nations, I, after consulting the King's General, laid the same before his Majesty, who has through my Representations been graciously pleased to Impower me to Meet you on this Occasion where, I am ready to hear your Sentiments, and Give you my Advice; after which, I shall Speak to you upon your late Treaty, which the King has Impowered me to Ratify, and also to Attend to any Other publick Affairs that may Occur. — I therefore Recommend it to you in the Course of this Buſineſs to pay the most Serious Regard to what I have to Offer and, ~~and~~ to give me in Answer the Truth, the Words of your heart. —

A Belt 11 Rows —

Brothers —

As so many of the Chiefs allready know much of my Sentiments concerning the Embaſsy from the Cherokees, I think it now more Particularly neceſsary to addreſs you the Warriors thereupon. —— In the first place you Should Consider, that War Should never be Carried on with any Nation without very Sufficient Reasons, and untill all Other Measures have proved Ineffectual; for a Desire on every Slender Pretence to make War, will undoubtedly Cause many of your friends to be Jealous of you, and may Occasion the forming a Powerfull Confederacy on the Part of the Enemy, which although you may be able to withstand, will nevertheleſs So far Engage the greatest Part of your Young Men, that Hunting, and Trade which are the Bleſsings attendant on the Peace you now Enjoy, must be greatly, if not totally Neglected; the want of this, you must all feel, and this is not the only Loſs you must Sustain in any War with a Numerous People. —

In the next place, those Nations against whom it is Said you are diſposed to Carry your Arms, have been Considered as friends in Alliance with you, and though from their Situation, & most probably from the Evil Councils of the French, they have been Induced to do Some Miſchief, you Should Still Consider, that in Attacking them, you weaken your Selves. & this is bad Policy, as the Breach is not So irrepairable, but that through proper Negotiations, a mutual good Understanding may be effected between you, whereas Warlike People who have once

Quarrelled are not easily brought to a Strict Union afterwards.—

I have already Expressed my thoughts so candidly to the Chiefs, that I now Confine myself to these principal Arguments, to which I shall add one more that ought to be of the greatest Weight with you, and that is the Sentiment of the great King your Father, and of his Subjects, which will also I trust convince you that they are your Real friends, and teach you to Regard them accordingly.— Another King, another People, indeed any People who had not an Esteem for the Indians would be glad of this Occasion to Stir you up to War, because War would weaken both, you, and your Adversarys.— that this is not the Case with us you must plainly discern; for the King Esteems you, & wishes to See you live happily, and at Peace with all your Neighbours.— these are likewise the Wishes of all his Subjects.— they know that it is for your Interest, and they cannot give you a Stronger Demonstration of their Friendship, at the Same time that they lay you under no Restraint in this Particular beyond what your own Reason must approve of.— Consider this cooly, and deliberately, & give me in Answer the real Sentiments of your hearts.—

A Belt of 9 Rows—

Sir William then Spoke to the Cherokee Deputies, and Cautioned them Strictly to Observe the Instructions they had received from their Chiefs, without Addition, or Alteration, as it might be of bad Consequence Should they say anything to the Northern Indians beyond what they had been Authorized; All which they assured him they would strictly Observe.—

To this Speech the Indians after some time spent in Consultation Answered, that they had heard with Attention all that Sir William had said to them — that they were very thankfull to him for the Regard he had expressed for their Interests — that their Chiefs would Assemble early in the Morning, and Deliberate with as much Expedition, as such a Weighty Affair would Admit of, on a proper Answer, which they would Deliver to him so soon as they were Agree'd in Sentiments. —

Then Adjourned.

Saturday July 20th —

In the Morning the Sachems, and Chief Warriors of both the Confederacys, or Leagues of the Six Nations, and the rest, met in their Encampments to take Sir William's Speech into Consideration, where they spent the whole Day in Deliberation without being able to come to a Conclusion. — In the mean time Sir William finding, ~~that~~ (notwithstanding all his Endeavors) that Liquor was brought amongst the Indians, rode round the Adjacent Settlements to Caution the Traders, and Other Persons not to Sell any. ——— In the Evening three Chiefs Deputed from the Several Nations waited on Sir William to Apologize for their not Returning an Answer this day as they had purposed, which they Assured him was Owing to the Difficulties it met with from the Warriors, who Seem'd Averse to any thing but War. — that the three Principal Branches of the Confederacy, the Mohawks Onondagas, and Senecas had at length Agreed to an Answer, but that the rest were not as yet come to any Conclusion. — Sir William spent some hours in Discourse with these Chiefs, and Others whom he Sent for, in Order to Expedite their Answer, the Necessity of which he represented from the Scarcity of Provisions for so great a Number Owing to the unfavorable

Season, and the Loss of the Inhabitants Crops, and Discoursed a long time with them on the Matters he recommended to their Consideration. —

Sunday July the 21st. — 1770

The former part of this day was Spent in private Conferences as well between the Indians, as with Sir William, and the Chiefs, in order that they might be thowroughly Satisfied with his Advice, & Unanimous in their Answer. —— Early in the Afternoon they acquainted Sir William that they were ready to deliver their Answer, and accordingly Assembled. —

Present as before. —

Being all Seated, the Onondaga Speaker called to the Speakers, and Chiefs of the rest to Approach the Front near Sir William in order to give in their Answer, which done they appointed Abraham Chief of the Mohawks their Speaker who Addressed Sir William as follows. —

Brother —

The Six Nations, and their Dependants from Ohio, to Canada have now Assembled after two days Spent in Deliberation, to deliver you their Answer to your Speech. — then repeated what Sir William had Said on his first Belt, and Added, now, Brothr., we have according to your Advice taken your discourse into our Consideration. — A Belt 11 Rows —

Brother. —

You desired that we Should give you an answer from the bottom of our Hearts; We accordingly met amongst ourselves and have had many Debates together in Order to bring about what Seem'd so pleasing to the King, at your Desire. — this took up all our time, and has prevented us from giving you an answer Sooner. — We then Repeated what Sir William had Said on his Second Belt, after which he proceeded as follows. –

Brother. –

You have very kindly Signify'd to us, that the King does not desire to See us at War with Indian Nations, and you have likewise given us your Opinion thereupon, and Shewn us the Disadvantages of it in a very clear Light. — Brothr., we have seriously Considered all this, and believing that it is the King's Regard for us that Occasions him to Wish us at Peace, & Confiding in your Friendship, which we are certain has Induced you to give us this Advice, We at length do Agree to the Same, and Shall Strictly follow it, provided we can bring those troublesome Nations to Reason and Submission without War, and live peaceably as we do with the Southern Indians, to this End we Shall Stay all Hostilities, and make use of our Younger Brothers the Shawanese, who live near them, to Convince them of their Folly, and Presumption, and if this has a Due Effect, and that these Nations will Join heartily in promoting Peace, and Abiding by their Antient Agreements, we shall be well pleas'd, and shall not make War upon them. — This, Brothr., you may be Assured is the Determined Resolution of us all, and therefore you may depend upon it that we Shall Observe what we have Said to you. –

A Belt 10 Rows –

Brother. –

We have Endeavored as much as possible hitherto to keep our People Sober, and Quiet: We are very Sensible, that it would Overset all Business, if our People got Liquor, for, as our Young

Men are with difficulty kept within Bounds, when Sober, it is certainly impoſsible to do any thing with them when drunk:- We therefore now Aſsure you, that it is our Resolution, during the Course of this Treaty to keep our Selves Sober; and Should any Kegs of Liquor be brought amongst us ~~during~~ by the Traders ~~Course of this Treaty~~, we will on Discovery Stave them to pieces,

Gave three Strings

Brother

We have now Answered you Sincerely & from our hearts on One part of the Buſineſs which has Occasioned our present Meeting, and we hope that it will be agreeable to you, and are ready to proceed on the rest. —— they then Conferred for Some time in private after which Sir William Addreſsed them —

Brothers — the Six Nations & others here Aſsembled

I have Attended Seriously to your Answer concerning the War you proposed to Engage in; I have as well before, as During the Course of our Proceedings here Said so much to you on the Subject, that I persuaded my self you would be Convinced, and am glad to find that you are so; And I know that it must Appear as a Striking proof of his Majesty's Humanity and Regard for you all, and that you may easily perceive that I have had no Other Motive in recommending it to you, than my Friendship, and Sincere Wishes for your Prosperity. I know that there are Some Parties of yours that are now gone to the Southward — As this is not Consistant with the pacific Sentiments you have Expreſsed for the Southern Indians, I think they Should be recalled; And when you Send to the Shawanese for the purposes you have mentioned, I recommend it to you to make Choice of wise Deputies, good Men who will faithfully execute the trust you repose in them, sincerely wishing for your own Sakes that you may faithfully abide by the Resolutions, you have now Expreſsed to me. —

Brothers

I am very glad that you have determined to let no Rum come amongst you, as that Liquor will not only Obstruct Busineſs, but may be productive of the most dangerous Consequences. — you see and know the pains that I have taken to prevent it, and I hope that you will do the like on your parts, Agreeable to yr Promises.

Brothers. —

The King, my Master having Received all the Papers, and Proceedings relative to the great Treaty at Fort-Stanwix, together with the Deed of Ceſsion, which you then Executed to him, has laid them before his Council of great men, and after Considering the whole of it, has Signified to me (what I hope will be deemed a further Instance of his Paternal Goodneſs) that he did not require the Land so far to the Southward, if it was of the least Inconvenience to his Children, whose Interest he has so much at heart. He has at length in Compliance with your own Desires, as transmitted by me, and the publick Grant that you made, Impowered me to Ratify the same by Letters I have received from the Lord who is one of his Majesty's Secretarys (holding the Letter in his hand), which I now purpose to do. — You all know the Deed of Ceſsion, of which this (shewing a Copy) is a true Copy. You all know that it was Executed in a publick Meeting of the greatest Number of Indians that has ever aſsembled within the time of our Remembrances, and that all who had any pretensions were Duely Summoned to it. — You all remember the great, and Valuable Present you received upon that Occasion, exceeding any thing you had ever seen. — yet nothwithstanding all this, I find that there are Some of your Dependants who live by your Toleration, and who never had any Title to the Soil, who talk as if they were Dissatisfied with your Act, or doubted your Authority. — It is therefore incumbent on you to See into, and make diligent Enquiry about it, and to Shew those People, if any Such there be, their Folly. — this I Expect you will do without Delay, as a Testimony of your Gratitude to the King, and Justice to yourselves; And I Expect that upon this Occasion, you will make choice of honest, Wise men, who will not Deviate from their Instructions, but faithfully Execute what you Direct them. Fully persuaded that you will do this, and that you are resolved to Abide for ever faithfully by your Engagements entred into at that time, I do now by Virtue of the Powers to me given in the Name, and on behalf of his Britanick Majesty, Ratify, and Confirm the whole of the Treaty made at Fort Stanwix in 1768, and also the Deed of Cession to the King then Executed (Except what relates to the private Grants, which his Majesty will Consider of) and I do declare that the Same is ratified accordingly. —

A Belt. —

The Indians, in Answer expressed their Satisfaction at what Sir William had Said, to which as it was very late, they deferred giving an Answer untill next Day.

then Adjourned.

At night Sir William had a Conference with a principal Sachem, and Warrior of each Nation, when he Spoke with them on the Subjects for the Meeting tomorrow. — he found, that besides some Grievances, which were to be the Subject of the future Proceedings, the Indians were Suspicious, that the English intended totally to Neglect, and Disregard them, and that this Opinion daily gained Ground amongst the several Nations. — The Chiefs Spoke with much Warmth on the reduced State of those living under our Arm, (as they called it,) namely the Mohawks, & others living amongst our Settlements, who they remarked had been very usefull to us, and were now greatly neglected by the English. —— The Mohawks in particular, (Supported by the rest) Signifyed their Desire to Speak in publick, that his Majesty would take their Case into Consideration, and allow them a Miſsionary, Observing, that they, and their Fathers had been Christianized, and attended for many years by Ministers of the Church of England — that a former King had built them a Church, and had taken much Care of them, but that they have been now for many years without an English Clergyman, which gave them much Concern. —— Sir William, foreseeing that these, and many Other matters of a private nature, would, if Spoken in publick, furnish part of the Confederacy with Subjects for disagreeable Reflections, Represented to them, that there would be no Occasion to bring matters before the Rest of the Nations, in which they were not particularly concerned, as he would lay them before his Majesty, from whose generous Sentiments, & pious Regards for their future Welfare, they might Expect that they would be attended to. —

The Sachems, and Chiefs of Canada Indians desired a Conference in publick with Sir William, and being Aſsembled, their Speaker Addreſsed him. —

Monday July —

Monday - July 22d. 1770

Brother. –

We have desired to Speak to you in this publick manner on an Affair which Concerns ourselves, and which has Occasioned great Uneasiness amongst us. —— Brothr. – you know us for many years, – we knew you, and Esteemed your Character when we were in the Arms of the French, and when you came Down with the Army to Montreal ten years agoe. – You then Spoke to us, gave us good Words, and by the Order of the General gave us Solemn Assurances, that if we did not Assist the French, but permitted you to Descend the River without Interruption we Should be placed among the Number of your friends, and Enjoy our Rights, and Possessions, and the free Exercise of our Religion for ever. – this we believed, for we knew your Character, and had a Confidence in you, and accordingly Agreed to your Request, and have ever Since behaved in Such a manner as to Demonstrate our Fidelity, and Attachment to the English. –

Brother. –

You allways give us good Words, and have Shewn your self our friend. It is therefore with Concern we tell you our Grievances at this time Occasioned by the Ill disposed people who give Disturbance in several Quarters. —— Brothr. – You are not Ignorant that there are many Men of whom we have before Complained, who are no longer our friends, and either Guided by Interest, or perhaps from Resentment on finding our Attachment to the English, endeavor to alter the minds of all the great Men who have been sent to Command in Canada, and to misrepresent us to them. through such means our Brothers at St. Regis have been Distressed for Sometime past by Intruders imposed on them from another Nation, who have no pretensions to Live in their Village: And last Winter, a Frenchman Named Clignancourt, came into Our Principal Village of Cagnawagee, bought a House privately, & was no sooner Settled, than he began to Create much Disturbance by telling false Stories to the Commanding Officer there, and giving Countenance to Immoralities that are highly displeasing to us. Our Priest who is a peaceable good Man, endeavored as far as was in his power to Restrain these Disorders in the usual manner, and to punish the Offenders according to the Religious forms of our Church, but was threatned, and treated with the greatest Contempt, so that he could not do his Duty, through the Artifices of this Frenchman. This gives us great Concern, and if we are not Redressed, we may in a little time be deprived of the use of that Religion, the use of which we were Assured Should be permitted to us. We therefore earnestly request that you will take this matter into Serious Consideration, and if you Shall think it fitting, that you may lay it before the King, that we may not be Interrupted hereafter in the Exercise of our Religion, or our Priests prevented from Inflicting such Such Pains, and Penances, as Our Church requires, on Offenders.

A Belt 7 Rows.

To which Sir William answered.

Brothers.

I have attended to your Speech, and do Assure you that I have not forgot any part of the Engagements we formerly entred into, and which it is his Majesty's Intention Shall be strictly Observed in every particular. You have therefore nothing to fear on that Account.

The Affair of St. Regis, I understand has been lately settled to the satisfaction of the Indians of that place, and as to what you mention respecting your Village at Cagnawagee, I make no Doubt that it would be soon Settled in the like manner, on my Acquainting the Governor of Quebec therewith; but, as he is now, I understand, Sail'd for England, I think the readiest Method to Gratify your Desire, will be by Letter to the Frenchman. I shall accordingly write to him in a proper Manner, and give Coll. Claus Instructions about the affair on his Return to Canada, which will be in a few Days. —

You may be Aſsured of his Majesty's Esteem, and that I shall Continue to Shew you all the friendship in my Power, so long as you Continue to Promote Peace, and Adhere faithfully to yr. Engagements. —

Returned their Belt

The Indians spent the Forenoon of this Day in Council, and about Noon Sir William had a Conference with some of the Chiefs on the Subject of their Answer. — In the Afternoon the Indians sent to Acquaint Sir William that they were Aſsembled. —

At a Congreſs with ~~the several~~

the several Nations of Indians, Monday July 22d. 1770. —

Present as before —

Conoquieson Asked whether Sir William was ready to attend to what they had to say. — On being answered in the Affirmative Abraham stood up and Addreſsed him as follows. —

Brothrs. &c —

Brother Gorah Warraghiyagey.

We are now met together in full Council to Answer you concerning what you last Spoke to us about the Kings having received our Deed, and the Proceedings at Fort Stanwix with his Ratification of the same, with which we are highly pleased, and we Shall also Speak on what you have mentioned concerning the Discontent some Indians have Expressed at part of our Cession. — Brothr., We begg therefore that you will Attend to what we have now to Answer.

Brother.

When we met you to so great a Number & in so public a manner at Fort Stanwix, we Should have hardly Acted as we Did, unless we had been possessed of a full Right to the Lands, and had full Authority to do so. We are Surprized that any Doubt can Arise about it. You very well know, that our Title has been allways Indisputable. As to the Pretensions of any inconsiderable People behind our Backs, we Shall soon Silence them, and we now Desire that you may Assure the King, that it was our Property we Justly Disposed of, that we had full Authority to do so. We Return the King the Sincere thanks of all our Nations for Ratifying the Same, and we again Confirm it, promising to Abide allways thereby. —

A Belt 8 Rows

Brother

We are very happy to hear of the good Disposition of the King towards us, and the Assurances you give us on that Occasion. We are highly pleased with the Indifference, the King shews for Lands, and we consider it as a Sure Sign of his Regard that he does not love to see us at War.

Brothr.

Brother. —

We are not desirous of making War, but when the same appears necessary. We therefore now Acquiesce with your Advice to us, and shall let the Southern Nations alone, provided they Act a proper part towards us. but, Brothr., whilst we Express our selves so Disposed, we cannot help Reflecting On the treatment we still Continue to Receive, particularly On the Southern Frontiers, where our People are frequently Robbed, and Murdered, and no Reparation made for all this. —— If we Inclined, to be Silent at Such Conduct, our Young Men would force us to Speak, and that warmly. they would soon be for Revenge, as the Provocation we have Received, is too great to be longer born with. — Brother, - We Request that the great King will give Orders to his Governors, and great Men concerning these matters, assuring you that we are Disposed to Abide by our Engagements, and Restrain Our Young People, but that we cannot pretend to do it, unless a Speedy End be put to the Behavior of the People who have so Repeatedly attacked us. —

A Black Belt 10 Rows —

Brother. —

At the Treaty at Fort-Stanwix, you then told us, as you had Done before, that we Should pass our time in Peace, and Travell in Security, that Trade Should, flourish, & Goods abound, that they Should be Sold us Cheap, and that Care Should be taken to prevent any persons from Imposing on us. — Brother, this would have Endeared all the English to us. - but we do not See it. - It is now worse than it was before; for we cannot get Goods at all at present, and we hear from all Traders that nobody will bring in any, and that you have none for your selves.

Brother. — We should take up a great deal of time, if we repeated all that we Suffer by these things, but you must be your self Sensible of them, and therefore we Rely upon you that you will lay these matters before the King, and represent our Situation so that he may hearken to our Words, and Afford us Redress. —

A Belt 10 Rows —

Then Conoquieson Stood up & Said —

Brother. —

Agreeable to what you yesterday Recommended to us, we have now fixed upon four Chiefs from amongst us, who are men of Sense that will faithfully deliver our Words to the Shawanese, of which Number Thomas King is the Principal, who is a man, that you may be assured, will faithfully execute whatever is desired of him. ——— Then acquainted the Six Nations, and Sir William Johnson that by the Death of Gawehe a Tuscarora Sachem there was a Vacancy at the Council Fire, and accordingly raised up Tarruwahowage to Supply his place with the usual Ceremonys. ——— After which Saghtaghroana, on behalf of the Seven Nations of Canada Stood up & Said —

Brother. —

We the Nations Living in Canada Express our sincere thanks to you for having by your Prudence, and Wisdom brought all the Nations here into one way of thinking which no Other person could ever have Effected: this is a great Work Brother, And it gives us a great pleasure, and I now Speak to you, and all the Nations in public upon it. — Brother, when We united ourselves with the English On the Reduction of Canada we then resolved to Act like Men, to be true to our Engagements, and to Scorn Lyes. —— We then agreed, for the preservation of Peace, that the Caghnawagees should have their Eyes on the Council Fire of the Six Nations at Onondaga, and the other Council fire at your House, whilst our Brethern at Canasadaga should have their Eyes upon all the Nations up the Ottawa, or great River to the Westward. —— Brother, We did this; we allways gave you true Intelligence, and Studied to Promote Peace; for Brothr., We are men of our Words, men who Despise Double dealing, and are incapable of Deceit. We Shall Still Act up to that Character, and our Actions Shall prove the Truth of what we now Say. We Resolve, in order to promote the Work, which you have begun, and so Successfully Conducted, to Send proper Deputies to the Indians to the Westward, taking that part of the Negotiation entirely upon ourselves, and we Shall agree with the Six Nations in the Message they Send, that we may not Speak with two Mouths upon so important an Occasion. the men we Shall make Choice of, Shall be such as we may all place the utmost Confidence in, and they Shall have Orders from us to Return by way of Detroit, and Fort-Pitt to your House to bring you a faithfull Report of the Negotiation. —

Then Shew'd the Belt which they purposed to Send.

Then Abraham the Chief returned Sir William the Belt which he had sent to the Meeting at Onondaga last Fall, cautioning them not to let their Warriors go to War, or Enter into any rash Resolves untill they heard from him. — with this having Complied, they according to Custom returned the Belt. — After which Abraham Returned the Belt

Sent last Spring by Sir William to the Seneca's Country, to Require them to Collect all the Horses they could, the Property of the White People, and to Deliver them up. All which they Promised, strictly to Comply with, and to prevent any from being taken in future by their People, or Dependants.—

The Speaker then acquainted Sir William that they had finished all the Material Buſineſs of the Congreſs.—

To All which Sir William answered, as follows.—

Brethern of the several Nations here Aſsembled.—

I am well pleased with the Answer which you have given me on the several Subjects, and I hope that your Actions will correspond with the Words you have made use of.— As I am well acquainted with your Claims, and Pretensions, I considered the Murmurings of some of your Dependants, as of little Importance.— It is nevertheleſs a Duty which you Owe to your selves to put a Stop to them, and I am very glad to hear that you have taken Resolutions for that Purpose, which I hope, and Expect you will See Performed.—

Brothers.—

It is with Concern that I hear you Complain, that the People on the Southern Frontiers Still Continue to Molest you, because I know that great Pains have been taken to put a Stop to such Behavior.—

Brothers.— You know, that I have often told you upon that Subject, that I have reason to believe, much of the Ill treatment you meet with, proceeds from the Indiscretion of Some of your Young People, when Paſsing through that part of the Country, amongst People who Suffered, severely during the War; I shall nevertheless as you desire lay your Complaint before his Majesty, who I am persuaded will give any Orders that may be farther necessary for your Security, — and I am certain that the Several Governors will use their utmost Endeavors for that purpose. but I Expect in return that, you will give the most Strict Caution to your Young People, that they Govern themselves in a peaceable, quiet Manner, when they resort to that Country; for otherwise you cannot Expect that the Inhabitants will treat them with Kindness.

Brothers. —

I very well Remember all the Promises that have been made you, and also the Engagements between us. — You all See that they are Committed to Writing in your Presence. —

I know that, amongst Other things, you Received Assurances of a free, and plentifull Trade, and I can confidently assure you that you will Still Enjoy the Same. — It is true, that for some little time Goods have been Scarce; but I can now Inform you, that they will be again in great Plenty, as the Merchants have now sent for large Cargoes which may be very soon Expected at New York, and a large Quantity is already come to Montreal, according to certain Advices I have lately received. —

I have likewise the pleasure to Acquaint you, that (although the Affair has taken up Some time from the Distance of some of our Colonies from the Others) there is now a good prospect, that the Affairs of Trade will Speedily be Regulated on Terms of Advantage to you all, as I have heard that some Commissioners for that purpose are already met, and more on their way to the place appointed for Determining thereupon. I shall however

Comply with your Request in Laying this Matter before the King on whose Attention to these, and all Other Affairs in which you are Interested, you may safely, and Confidently Rely.

Brothers.

I Approve of the Manner you have resolved upon to send Messengers to the Shawanese, and of the Men you have Chosen for that Purpose. But, as I likewise intend to send Messengers as well to the Shawanese as to Michilimacinac, I shall expect to be made Acquainted with the Purport of your message that we may both Correspond On that Subject.

Brothers of the Seven Nations of Canada.

I thank you for your honest, and Spirited Address to myself, and all here Assembled, & I greatly Approve of your Resolutions to send Messengers in the Manner you propose. I shall gladly Join them with Messengers from my Self, to which End it will be necessary that I know what you Intend to charge them with, that we may Unite in Sentiments.

Then it growing late, and a Thunder Storm Coming on, Sir William thanked them all for their Accordation with him in Sentiments, and Adjourned.

Tuesday July 23d. In the Morning the Indians all assembled in Council.

Present as before

Sir William having desired their Attention Spoke as follows

Brothers of the Six Nations, of Canada, & all others here Assembled.

Having now brought the Business of this Treaty to a favorable Conclusion, I cannot help Expressing my Satisfaction thereat.

thereat, and at the Readineſs, and Unanimity which the Chiefs have Manifested upon this Occasion. It only now remains, that I close this Congreſs in a Suitable Manner by Adding Strength and Weight to Our Proceedings. — I do therefore by this Belt, Renew, and Strenghten the Covenant Chain, or Alliance Entred into between our Ancestors, and Yours. I likewise Clean, and Brighten it, so that it may not Contract any Rust; And I do aſsure you on the part of the great King, that we Shall take Care to hold it Fast, and preserve it unhurt to the latest Posterity, if you will on your parts be Observant of the part which is in Your hands, and take equal Care of it. — I likewise Declare, that it is the Intention of his Majesty, and all his Subjects to Abide by, and Fulfill the Engagements with you so far as is poſsible, and I Recommend it to you all to make publick the Transactions of this Treaty throughout all the Nations to the Setting of the Sun; And as you Value yourselves, and Wish to be happy, to Abide by, and faithfully perform all that you have Promised. —

Gave the Belt of the Covenant Chain, after which every Nation gave the Yo.hah —

Brothers. —

Notwithstanding the great Additional Expence which the King, my Master has been at in Bestowing Favors on Such an Additional Number of Indians, as by the Reduction of Canada have been Admitted into our Alliance, his Majesty is Still mindfull of you, and has therefore been graciously pleased to Consider your present Wants by Ordering you a handsome Present, which I have brought to this place, and which shall now be Delivered to you. — I hope that you may Retain a gratefull Sense of these, and all other

Marks of his Royal Favor, and that you will allways be Studious to merit the Continuance of his Protection, and Friendship, and the Regard of all his Subjects. —

Brothers the Miſsasagas. —

I am gladd that by your Attending at this Treaty you had an Opportunity of Observing the Friendship Subsisting between the English and your Brothers here Aſsembled, and the Unanimity with which we have brought Several Weighty Matters to an agreeable Conclusion. — I Recommend it to you faithfully to Relate the Particulars that have Paſsed here, to your Nation, and Confederacy, at your Return, Aſsuring them of the Friendship of the great King, and that I Shall allways preserve a Sincere Regard for them, and their Interests, so long as they Continue to merit it by Contributing to Diffuse the Bleſsings of Peace throughout the Country within their Influence, and by Joining heartily in Promoting the Several Matters of Importance agreed upon before me by their Friends, and Confederates. — A Belt. —

Brethren of the Several Nations here Aſsembled. —

Every thing for the present being agreeably Adjusted, and Concluded upon, I have only to Add my Expectations that you will be Stedfast in fullfilling your Engagements; and I now Close this Treaty with my Kindest Wishes for your Prosperity. —

Brothers the Cherokees. —

You have heard the Conclusion, and Determination of the Six Nations, and their Confederates; and upon Maturely Considering all Circumstances I hope they will prove Agreeable to your Nation, to whom I desire you will faithfully Report all the Transactions at this place, Aſsuring

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assuring them of my Friendship, and that I am much Obliged to them for the gratefull Sense, which from the Belts you deliver'd me, I find they Retain of my Endeavors in Effecting the Peace between them, and your Brothers here Assembled, that I Shall allways Continue to Promote it, trusting that they will do the like on their Parts, and Sincerely wishing, that by Attending to the Words of your Brother in Carolina, who has the Care of you, you may Continue to Deserve the Esteem of the great King, and all his Subjects.—

2 fine Belts.—

The Six Nations then Renewed their Engagements with the Cherokees, acquainting the Deputies, that as they had now Come to a final Resolution before Sir William Johnson, they hoped that the Same would be found Satisfactory to the Cherokees.—

The Nanticoks then Addressed Sir William, requesting that he would give them a Passport, and Letter to the Governor of —— Carolina, that they might go, and bring the Remainder of their People from thence, and Dispose of some Land they yet have there.

A Belt.—

They then earnestly Requested that he would prevent the Traders from bringing any more Rum down the Susquahana, as they who lived there, were determined to Abstain from Drinking, Seeing so many Murders Committed by means thereof.—

A Belt

Sir William promised them, that he would Grant them a Passport, and Also write in their favor to the Governor of Carolina Concerning their Lands there; and Recommended a proper Conduct to them as they passed through the Sevl Settlements &ca — . Belt

Sir Wm

Sir William also promised, that he would do all in his power, to discourage the bringing of Rum to their Settlements, and Expressed his Approbation of the Resolutions they had taken, and wished them to Continue firm in the Same. — Returned a Belt

The Cayuga Chief then Arose, and Acquainted Sir William and the Six Nations that the Delawares, Monsies &c living at Chughnut Wialosing &c — had promised to Remain where they now Live, and not regard the Invitation of their Countrymen living at Ohio, and further Assured the Six Nations that they would Act agreeable to their Directions. —

Spoke with two Belts.

Then the Chiefs of the Several Nations Assembled to Consider of an Answer to the Covenant Chain Belt, & after Sometime Spent Abraham the Mohawk Chief stood up, and in the name of the Six Nations, Canada Confederacy &c repeated what Sir William had Said on said Belt, and Returned their most hearty thanks for Renewing the Covenant and they on their parts did the Same. —

The Onondaga Speaker then Arose, and Acquainted Sir William that they Appointed Taganahquaghsee in the Room of Kanajiakaia deceased, Tawahmgseraghse of Kanaghcadirra in the Room of Odongota Chieftain of the Warriors, and two more of the Onondaga Nation. All which they hoped he would Approve of, and Give them Such Testimonials &c as are usual on these Occasions. — Sir William Admitted, and Approved of their Recommendations, and after giving the Appointed Sachems the Necessary Admonitions, he told them that he would at next General Meeting give them the proper Testimonials &c which he had at his House

A large Belt. —

Wednesday Morning the Chiefs of each Nation present waited on Sir William at his Quarters to let him know the Purport of their Meſsage (to be sent by their Deputies to the Wawiaghtanakes, Piankashaas, Kickapoos &c – which is as follows.

Brethren

These Deputies from the Six Nation Confederacy are now sent to Inform you of the Peace established between us, and the Cherokees, as well as the good Harmony and Union that Subsists between us, our Brethren the English, and all the Nations of Indians to the rising of the Sun, at the Same time to let you know our Surprize, and Displeasure at your Untoward, and Unruly Behavior towards some of our People, as well as to our Brethren the English, who are Employed Carrying Goods to the Illenois for your use, and that of all the Indians in that Quarter, which Shews that you are not in your Senses. – Wherefore we now take you by the Head, and Shake you, so as to bring you to them, and also take that Hatchet out of your hands which you run about with Doing Mischief. – Should you Still prove Obstinate, and Persevere in your Wickedneſs they are in that Case Authorized by the whole Confederacy now Aſsembled to tell you that the Consequence will prove fatal to you. Repent therefore of what you have done, Otherwise you will Inevitably Involve your Nations in a War, which must Terminate in your Ruin. –

A large Belt Shewn

The Canada Confederacy consisting of Seven Nations then told Sir William, that as they Intended to Wait on him to his House (in their way Home) they would there Acquaint him with the Purport of their Meſsage to those troublesome Nations who were now like men Void of Sense Running about with a Sharp Ax in their Hands at a time when he was Endeavoring to Spread Peace over all the Land. –

The Missisagas also Came to Acquaint Sir William, that they Intended to wait upon him to his House, where they had Something to to say to him relative to their Nation. —

Sir William after having Returned the Chiefs his hearty thanks for the part they had Acted during the Congress, and Expressing his Approbation of the Message which they Intend sending to the Ill disposed Nations, told them, and the Canada Confederacy, Missisagas &c that he Intended also Sending them Some Belts which Should Coincide with theirs in a great Measure. — then told the Canada Indians and Missisagas &c that he would be glad to See them at his House as he had Something particular to say to them. — then Sir William Ordered Provisions for all the Nations on their Journey home, and after parting with them in the most friendly manner, Sett off that Morning for his Own Seat Accompanied by above One hundred and fifty Indians &c and followed by Several other Parties, on the private Affairs of their respective Nations. —

The foregoing is a true Copy Examin'd by me

Richd. Shuckburgh Secry. for Indn. Affrs.

P. S. Since writeing the above I received a letter from S^t Christopher's of which the Inclosed is a Copy, by which Your Lordships will further see how His Majesty's Prohibitary Instructions are evaded.

The Right Hon^ble
The Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations.

Sir William Johnson to the Lords of Trade.

[Plantations General Papers, XVI., p. 2.]

Fort Johnson 25th June 1757.

My Lords

In the last letter I had the honor to write Your Lordships, I acquainted you that I had just then finished a Meeting with the Six Nations, wherein I had charged them with their inactivity in aiding and assisting His Majesty's arms and had insisted upon their giving me the reasons for their backwardness and coolness, and also to know positively from them what their future resolutions were, without any disguise. I then acquainted your Lordships that the Six Nations told me they looked upon the matters I had laid before them, to be of too important consequence for the Deputation then present, to give me a full and determinate answer to, — that they were speedily to hold a great Council of all the Nations at Onondaga where what I had then said should be faithfully reported, fully deliberated upon, and when that Council broke up, I should receive their full and determinate answer. That therefore I deferred transmitting to Your Lordships what passed at the said Meeting at my house, till I had the result of the Meeting at Onondaga, when I would send you both together.

Accordingly, My Lords, I herewith transmit the same to you. I was in expectation to have been able to have done this much sooner, but the unsettled state of the Six Nations amongst themselves and the confusion which the too successful arts of the French Emissaries have thrown them into, have delayed this meeting at Onondaga much beyond the time they gave me reason to expect it would take place and breake up.

Your Lordships will see by the Papers herewith, that the Three upper Nations, to wit, the Senecas, Cayougas and Onondagas, have declared themselves in favour of a Neutrality. As no Deputies from the Tuscaroros or Oneidas came down to this Meeting, I cannot say what their resolutions will be. It appears probable to me that from their not coming down with those upper Nations, they do not wholly agree in sentiments with them. I expect they will come by themselves when these return, and let me know their resolutions; but whether those will be more favourable to our interest, than what these three upper Nations have declared, I will not take upon me to ascertain. When I receive their resolves, I shall transmit them to Your Lordships.

I beg leave on this occasion to put Your Lordships in mind, and refer you to those papers I sent to the Board in Jan^ry 1756 by Gov^r Pownall when he went to England, wherein was laid before your Lordships the declining state of our Indian interest at the time General Braddock's commission put the management of Indian Affairs into my hands, and I told that Gentleman, they should come in a body, or each Nation separately; to which Sir William answered, that, as the house in which he resided, was too small to admit them, he would cause a large arbour to be made in the Field, where he would receive them all the next morning. At 6. p. m. 80 Indians arrived from *Onoghquagey*,[1] and other villages on the branch of *Susquahanna* the Chiefs of whom waited on Sir William, who after the usual ceremony, ordered them provisions, and sent them to their quarters. In the evening 16. Algonkins ettc. arrived, who informed Sir William, that they had left seven canoes of Chipaweighs n^{r} Oswego, on their way to the Congress. —

Tuesday the 17th The *Bunt* Chief of Onondaga, with the speaker of that nation, waited on Sir W^{m} early in the morning and acquainted him, that their head warrior Diaquanda had refused to attend to business, and encamped with another Nation, which gave them all concern, and would greatly interrupt their proceedings; but as he was Sir William's particular friend, and much under his influence, hoped that he would make use of it to persuade him to return to them. — Sir William gave them a gracious answer and assured them that he would use his influence to that end.

Sir William accordingly sent for Diaquanda, and after some discourse, at length persuaded him to join, and assist his Nation in Council, for which he received their sincere thanks.

The Indians not being all assembled as yet, Sir William received visits from the Chiefs, and held several private meetings with the principal Men of each nation, from whom he received much useful and interesting information, respecting the sentiments and present disposition of the Indians. —

In the evening the old Sachems of Onoghquagey, came to Sir Williams quarters to acquaint him of Thomas King's (one of their Chiefs) having some days ago, unfortunately killed a young *Tuscarora*, for which he was so much concerned, that he determined to return the next day to the Village, where he committed the Murder, and submit himself to the Will of the Friends of the Deceased. Sir William Told them, that he was extremely sorry for the death of their friend, desiring them to tell Thomas King that he would talk with him on that subject, and contribute his endeavours, that the affair might be amicably accommodated.

At a Congress held at the German Flatts on Wednesday July the 18th 1770.

PRESENT — The Hon^{ble} Sir W^{m} Johnson Bar^{t} Superintendant.
Col: Daniel Claus. Dep^{ty} Agent. John Butler Esq^{re} Interpreter.
Col. Guy Johnson. d^{o} Cap^{tn} Norman M^{c}Leod[2] of the late 80. Reg^{t}
Rich^{d} Shuckburgh Esq: Secr: for Indian Affairs Capt^{n} Michael Byrne.

Hanjst Harkemer Esq^{re} and several other Gentlemen and Inhabitants from the settlements with the following nations of Indians.

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[1] Now Windsor, Broome county, N. Y.

[2] Captain NORMAN McLEOD entered the army in January, 1756, as Ensign in the 42d Highlanders, on the augmentation of that regiment preparatory to its embarking for America, and served under Lord Loudon in Nova Scotia; under General Abercrombie in the expedition against Ticonderoga in 1758; he accompanied the expeditions under Amherst on Lake Champlain and down the St. Lawrence in 1759, 1760. Having been transferred to the 80th or Gage's Light Infantry, he was commissioned Captain Lieutenant of that corps on 4th October, of the latter year, and served in it until its reduction in 1763, when he went on half pay, and was, some time after, appointed Commissary at Niagara. His name is continued on the half pay list until 1787, when it disappears. *Browne's Highland Clans*, IV., 155, *et seq.*; *Army Lists*; *Knox*. Owing to the similarity of the names, this officer has been confounded with another, in the *Note, supra*, VII., 854, which ought to be erased. — ED.

SIX NATIONS.

Mohawks of the three Villages	209.	Tuscaroras	132.
Onondagas	250.	Senecas	354.
Onejdas	232.	Cayugas	269.

their Dependants.

Ganaghsaragues[1]	115.	Oonoghquageys	124.
Nanticoks & Conoys.	193.	Tuteloes	78.

FROM CANADA.

Cagnawageys and the Indians of S^{t} Regis.	78.	Abenaquis S^{t} Francis	2.
Algonkins	8.	Hurons of Lorett	2.
Ganagsadagas	11.	Nipisinks	7.

River Indians	2.	Deputies from Cherokee Nation	7.

An Ottowa Chief called Okayowess from Michilimacinac.

All these were joined by 26. Missages and 230. Indians of the several Nations during the Treaty, amounting in the whole to 2320 Indians.

Being all seated, Saghteghroana, a Chief of S^{t} Regis stood up and said; that agreable to the summons they had received, there were now assembled the Chiefs of the Seven Nations of Canada in order to attend the Congress.—Then returned the string of invitation.—Then, Conoquieson a Chief of Oneida stood up on behalf of the Six Nations and said.

Brother Warraghiyagey.—We are very happy to see you here this day at our particular request. You know, Brother, that when the Deputies who are now here from the Cherokee Nation, first came to our Fire place at Onondaga, to request on behalf of their Nation, that we should join them in making War upon the troublesome people who were their Enemies, and from whom ourselves have received several insults; as it was an affair of importance, which required much deliberation, tho' inclined to agree to their desires, yet, as none of our Confederacy from Canada were present, and as we had given you assurances that we should not enter into any engagements without your concurrence, and approbation; we thought it most fitting to send Deputies to you, requesting you would assemble the Whole of our Conferacy, that we might confer together thereon.—Brother, We are very thankful that you have complied with our request, as people in alliance should do, and we are now to acquaint you, that agreable, to the Belts and Messages sent amongst us, we are all now met here from Ohio to Canada, to a considerable number; and I do now on behalf of all those Nations here assembled, take you by the hand, sincerely wellcoming you to this place, where we have kindled up a fire, and where, I hope the business we meet upon, will go on, to our mutual satisfaction—

gave three strings.

Then after acquainting the Indians of the death of an Oneida child, since they left their village he proceeded.

Brother.—Agreeable to the Ancient custom established by our wise Forefathers, that whenever we meet, we should mutually condole each other for our losses, and as we suppose, that you have doubtless sustained some, since our last interview, we do now agreable to this laudable practice Condole with you for the same. We open your eyes, that you may look chearfully. We open your Ears that you may hear us, and clear your throats, that you may speak freely to us. We likewise gather the bones of the deceased of your people, and bury them deep, carefully covering the grave from your sight. And we once more kindle the fire at this place, and sweep out all the dust from the Council Chamber, that nothing my obstruct us in our business — gave 3. Strings.

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[1] These Indians were located on the Canaseraga creek, in the town of Sullivan, Madison county, N. Y. (*not* Oneida county, as stated in note 2, VII., 512.) — ED.

Then Thomas King on behalf of the Warriors of the Six Nations arose and said.

Brother. I take this opportunity on behalf of all the Warriors of the Six Nations, and their Confederates now assembled, to let you know, that we are not well pleased with our Sachems for neglecting to acquaint us with what they purposed to say this Morning, and for not giving you our particular thanks for calling, and meeting us this day, as the occasion of this assembly is principally on *our* accounts, upon a matter in which *we* as Warriors are particularly interested. And, they well know it, for, *there* are the Men (pointing to the Cherokee Chiefs) whose business they all know is Chiefly to us the Warriors, to invite us to engage against their troublesome neighbours with whose conduct we are likewise much dissatisfied. — I do therefore with this Belt, at the desire, and on the part of all the Warriors here assembled from Canada to Ohio, and of the Cherokee Deputies, take you now by the hand, in the most friendly manner, kindly thanking you for complying with our request in calling us together, and giving you a most hearty welcome to this place, where we are all happy to find that you are arrived in safety. — a Belt of five Rows.

Then Tagawara an Oneida Chief stood up on the part of Sir William Johnson, and first addressed the Indians of Canada as follows:

Brothers of the Seven Nations of Canada.

I am very glad to see you all here this day agreeable to summons. It is a proof of your attention to the affairs of your Confederacy, and I sincerely welcome you upon the occasion.

Then addressing the rest, and repeating what Conoquieson said, proceeded:

Brothers. I am glad to see you all this day in health, and am well pleased, that in consequence of the circumstances you mention, you have now brought hither the Chiefs of so many Nations, and Confederate tribes; because by them means none can plead ignorance of our transactions, and the business will go on to the satisfaction of you all. I do therefore give thanks to providence for permitting us to meet this day, and cordially take you all by the hand, bidding you a hearty welcome to this place. — Gave 3. Strings.

Brothers. As a proof of my regard for the wise institution of your Ancestors, and from the information I have received of the losses you have sustained since our last meeting, I do now on the part of His Maj^{ty} the King of Great Brittain sincerely Condole with you on this melancholy occasion. I open your eyes, that you may once more look with chearfulness, and your Ears that you may hear distinctly, and I clear the passages to your heart, that you may speak freely its real sentiments. I do also gather the bones of your dead, and bury them in a deep pit, carefully covering them from your sight, and I also sweep, and cleanse your Council fire, that we may meet therein, and proceed to business without interruption.

Gave three strings.

Then after repeating the speech of Thomas King he addressed the Warriors & Cherokees as follows:

Brothers. I am much obliged, in that you have expressed so much desire to thank me particularly on your parts. I entertain a high opinion, and regard for you all, and by this

Belt, I now take you all by the hand in the most friendly manner, giving you a very kind and friendly welcome to this place, wishing that you may always conduct yourselves with prudence and attention to the true interest of your respective Nations.— A Belt of Six Rows.

Then addressing the whole, he said:

Brothers of the several Nations here Assembled.

I am very glad that we have now so far prepared for business by going through the usual forms to mutual satisfaction, and shall be ready to enter on the important affairs for which we are assembled, on the arrival of the rest of your people who are hourly expected.—Then Sir William ordered pipes and Tobacco to be distributed amongst them, and recommended it to the Warriors, that as he was using his utmost endeavours, that they should be supplied with what necessaries they wanted, he expressed that they would behave with order and decorum.— that they should avoid liquor, and committ no violence on any of the property of the Inhabitants. Then adjourned.

In the afternoon Sir William held several private meetings with the Chiefs, in order to inform himself as to their sentiments, and resolutions at that time.—In the evening several of the Mohawks arrived, and reported that the rest would join them early to morrow. At night Sir William called together a Sachem and Head Warrior from each of the principal Nations, with whom he held a Conference untill the night was far advanced; of these, there were some who were much to be depended upon for their integrity, from whom (amongst other things of much importance to be known previous to the Congress) he learned that the Warriors were for the much greater part obstinately bent on a war with the Southern Indians—that great part of the Sachems, convinced by the arguments Sir William had made use of at the private conferences, would have gladly declined it, and seemed disposed to send the Cherokee Deputies back after renewing the late Treaties, and giving them farther assurances of their friendship for that Nation, but that they very much doubted whether the warriors could be persuaded thereto, as they were much exasperated at the insults which some of the Confederacy had received from the Indians of *Wabash* ettc, and what in consequence of the treatment the English had received from these Nations, the Warriors expected, not only their concurrence, but their aid, and assistance to carry it on in like manner as they had formerly assisted the English.—Sir William further learned, that there were some other very interesting points to be spoken upon at the Congress, on all which he had much conversation with those present, using his utmost endeavours to procure a favourable issue to the Congress, and endeavouring all in his power to avoid their making any requisition of aid from the English should it so happen that a War must take place.

Tuesday July 19th 1770.

Early in the morning the remainder of the Mohawks arrived.

The Chiefs of the Canada Indians in consequence of the Murder of three of the Six Nations formerly at *Oswegatchy*, on which they had never Condoled, assembled at Sir William's quarters, and after calling together the rest of the Indians, proceeded to the Bower, where the seven Nations of Canada, after premising the occasion of their meeting then, and that they could not with propriety unite in measures until they had obeyed the institutions of their Ancestors, by performing in the fullest manner the ceremony of Condolence for those losses, and giving the necessary Belts ettc, to the Six Nations on that occasion. This having taken up the greatest part of the forenoon, the Chiefs of the Six Nations informed him that they would consider on an answer, and accordingly withdrew to a private Council place to deliberate thereon.

About noon four Canoes with 26 Mississages from the North side of Lake Ontario came to Camp to attend the Congress.

Sir William having judged it highly necessary, as well from the temper of the Indians, the greatness of their numbers, and the disorders they are too liable to commit when in Liquor, advised the Magistrates to give notice to the Traders ettc by no means to sell them any, untill the Congress was ended; and it was done previous to his arrival; but having this day received information that some Traders ettc had actually sold them a Keg of Rum, and that others had resolved to follow this example, which greatly alarmed the Inhabitants, and occasioned their applications to him to check it, he issued a notification under his hand and seal which he sent throughout the whole settlement by a peace Officer, strictly forbidding them at their peril to sell any Rum to the Indians, or any spirituous liquors whatsoever during the Congress, until they had removed, when they might sell it to them beyond the settlements; the apprehensions of the Inhabitants being very great, as from the temper shewn by many of the Warriors, they had reason to dread, that neither their property, or persons would be secure, should they get liquor amongst them.

The Six Nations after sometime spent in Council, returned to the public Council place, & after returning thanks to the Indians of Canada performed the ceremony of Condolence & gave the usual Belts to them in return.

In the afternoon, the Indians being in readiness, waited on Sir William, when the future proceedings of the day being regulated and resolved upon, they proceeded to the Bower, where Abraham Chief of the Mohawks acquainted the rest with the business then to be entered upon, after which Teyawarunte Speaker of the Six Nations, did on behalf of Sir William Johnson perform the whole ceremony of Condolance for a Mohawk Chief lately dead, a Cayuga killed by one of that Nation, and a Seneca Chief lately drowned, and delivered the several Belts for the several purposes on such occassions, covering the graves with a black Belt, they answering with a Yo-hah, customary on Condolances.—The Indians after being a short time in consultation addressed Sir William by Conoquieson their Speaker, and after repeating all that he had said to them, they returned to the ceremony of Condolance in like manner—which ended, the Chiefs all shook hands with Sir William and the rest of the Gentlemen, returning him many thanks for having made their minds easy. When Sir William arose, and told them that he was happy to find that every thing was so far settled to mutual satisfaction, that there now only remained [to] attend to the principal business for which they assembled; to that end be recommended it to them to preserve sobriety, and good order in their encampments, and to be in readiness to attend the morning following, when he should make them a speech.

Then the Cayuga Chief arose, and condoled for the murder of a Tuscarora committed a few days before by Thomas King, and covered the grave ettc. After which adjourned.

The Mississagaes from the North side of Lake Ontario arrived at Sir William's Quarters, & after the usual salutations, told him, that being at Oswego with others of their Nation, they, who were for the most part the principal Men, thought proper to attend him, on hearing that he had opened a Congress with their Brethren.

Sir William after expressing his satisfaction at seeing them, and bidding them welcome told them, that he could have no objection to their being present, but that on the contrary he was always glad of any opportunity of making his transactions public, with all well disposed Indians.

This Night, the Boats having on board the present for the Indians, arrived after a tedious passage occasioned by the lowness of the water at this season.

At a Congress held at the German Flatts on Friday July the 19th 1770.

PRESENT— The Hon^{ble} Sir William Johnson Bar^{t} Superintendant.

Col: Daniel Claus. Dep^{ty} Agent
Col: Guy Johnson d^{o}
Richard Shuckburgh Esq^{re} secretary for Indian Affairs
John Butler Esq^{re} Interpreter.
Capt^{n} Norman M^{c}Leod of the late 80th Reg^{t}
Col: Hanjst Harkemer[1] Justice of the Peace.
Rudolph Shomaker d^{o}
Capt^{n} Michael Byrne,

with the several Nations of Indians before mentioned.

Being all seated, Sir William addressed them as follows:

Brothers of the Six Nations, of the seven Nat^{ns} of Canada, of the several dependant Tribes, and all others here assembled; Sachems, Chiefs & Warriors.

I desire that you will carefully attend to the words I have now to say to you, it being on matters on great importance to you all.—Our Brothers of the Six Nations sent Messages to me last fall from their great Council Fire at Onondaga accompanied by the Cherokee Deputies here present to acquaint me, that these Deputies were charged (as Ambassadors from their Nations) with Belts Messages, and a pipe to strengthen their alliance, and sollicit the aid of the Six Nations against the Piankeshaws, Wawaightonos, and others, as people troublesome, and Enemies to both; on which the Six Nations would not determine, until agreable to their engagements, they had first in public Congress had my sentiments & concurrence thereon. At the earnest solicitations of the Six Nation Messengers, and the Cherokee Deputies, seconded by the representations of Thomas King who had accompanied them from the Cherokee Country, and the many requests since repeated, of the Six Nations, I, after consulting the King's General, laid the same before His Maj^{ty}, who has through my representations being graciously pleased to impower me to meet you on this occasion, where, I am ready to hear your sentiments, and give you my advice; after which, I shall speak to you upon your late treaty, which the King has empowered me to Ratify, and also to attend any other public affairs that may occur. I therefore recommend it to you in the course of this business, to pay the most serious Regard to what I have to offer and to give me in answer the truth, the words of your heart.

A Belt 11. Rows.

Brothers. As so many of the Chiefs already know much of my sentiments concerning the Embassy from the Cherokees, I think it now more particularly necessary, to address you the Warriors thereupon. In the first place you sh^{d} consider, that war should never be carried on with any Nation without very sufficient reasons, and until all other measures have proved ineffectual; for, a desire on every slender pretence to make war, will undoubtedly cause many of our friends to be jealous of you, and may occasion the forming a powerfull Confederacy on the part of the Enemy, which although you may be able to withstand, will nevertheless so far engage the greatest part of your young Men, that, hunting and Trade, which are the blessings attendant on the peace you now enjoy, must be greatly, if not totally neglected; the want of this, you must all feel, and this is not the only loss you must sustain in any War with a numerous people. In the next place, those Nations against whom it is said you are disposed to carry your Arms, have been considered as friends in alliance with you, and though from their situation, & most probably from the evil Councils of the French, they have been induced to do some mischief, you should still consider, that in attacking them, you weaken yourselves. This is bad policy, as the breach is not so irrepairable, but that through proper negociations, a mutual good understanding may be effected between you, whereas warlike people, who have once quarrelled are not easily brought to a strict union afterwards.

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[1] Colonel HANJOST HERKIMER was the second son of Johan Jost Herkimer, one of the Palatines mentioned in the patent of Burnetsfield, or the German Flats, in 1725, and younger brother of General Nicolas, of the Revolutionary army, who was killed at Oriskany. He filled various county offices until the Revolution, when, adhering to the Royal cause, his property was confiscated by the New-York act of 1779. He retired with his family to Canada where he died between the years 1784 and 1787.—ED.

I have already expressed my thoughts so candidly to the Chiefs, that I now confine myself to these principal arguments, to which I shall add one more that ought to be of the greatest weight with you, and that is the sentiment of the great King your Father, and of his subjects, which will also I trust convince you that they are real friends, and teach you to regard them accordingly. Another King, another people, indeed any people who had not esteem for the Indians would be glad of this occasion to stir you up to War, because War would weaken both, you, and your Adversarys; that this is not the case with us, you must plainly discern; for the King esteems you, and wishes to see you happily, and at peace with all your neighbours. These are likewise the wishes of all his subjects; they know that it is for your interest, and they cannot give you a stronger demonstration of their friendship, at the same time that they lay you under no restraint in this particular, beyond what your own reason must approve of. Consider this cooly, and deliberately, and give me in answer the real sentiments of your hearts.— A Belt of 9 Rows.

Sir William then spoke to the Cherokee Dep^{ties} and cautioned them strictly to observe the Instructions they received from their Chiefs, without addition, and alteration, as it might be of bad consequence, should they say anything to the Northern Indians beyond what they had been authorized. All which they assured him they would strictly observe.—To this speech the Indians after some time spent in consultation answered, that they had heard with attention all that Sir William had said to them; that they were very thankful to him for the regard he had expressed for their interests—that their Chiefs would assemble early in the morning, and deliberate with as much expedition, as such a weighty affair would admit of, on a proper answer, which they would deliver to him so soon as they were agreed in sentiments.

Then adjourned.

Saturday July 20th

In the morning the Sachem, and Chief Warriors of both the Confederacys, or Leagues of the Six Nations, and the rest, met in their encampments to take Sir William's speech into consideration, where they spent the whole day in deliberation without being able to come to a conclusion. In the mean time, Sir William finding (notwithstanding all his endeavours) that Liquor was brought amongst the Indians, rode round the adjacent settlements to caution the Traders, and other persons not to sell any.—In the evening, three Chiefs Deputed from the several Nations, waited on Sir William to apologize for their not returning an answer this day as they had purposed, which they assured him was owing to the difficulties it met with from the Warriors, who seemed averse to any thing but war. That the three principal branches of the Confederacy, the Mohawks, Onondagas, and Senecas had at length agreed to an answer, but that the rest were not as yet come to any conclusion—Sir William spent some hours in discourse with these Chiefs and others whom he sent for, in order to expedite their answer, the necessity of which he represented from the scarcity of provisions for so great a number owing to the unfavourable season, and the loss of the Inhabitants crops, and discoursed a long time with them on the matters he recommended to their consideration.

Sunday July the 21st 1770.

The former part of this day was spent in private Conferences as well between the Indians as with Sir William, and the Chiefs, in order that they might be thoroughly satisfied with his advice, and unanimous in their answer.—Early in the afternoon they acquainted Sir William that they were ready to deliver their answer and accordingly assembled.

PRESENT— as before.

Being all seated, the Onondaga Speaker called to the speakers, and Chiefs of the rest to approach the Front near Sir William in order to give in their answer, which done they appointed Abraham Chief of the Mohawks their Speaker, who addressed Sir William as follows.

Brother. The Six Nations and their Dependants from Ohio to Canada have now assembled after two days spent in deliberation to deliver you their answer to your speech. Then repeated what Sir William had said on his first belt, and added, now, Brother, we have according to your advice taken your discourse into due consideration. A Belt 11. Rows.

Brother.—You desired that we should give you an answer from the bottom of our hearts; We accordingly met amongst ourselves and have had many debates together in order to bring about what seemed so pleasing to the King, at your desire; this took up all our time, and has prevented us from giving you an answer sooner. He then repeated what Sir William had said on his second Belt, after which he proceeded as follows:

Brother. You have very kindly signifyed to us, that the King does not desire to see us at war with Indian Nations, and you have likewise given us your opinion thereupon, and shewn us the advantages of it in a very clear light.—Brother, We have seriously considered all this, and believing that it is the King's regard for us that occasions him to wish us at peace, and confiding in your friendship, which we are certain has induced you to give us the advice, we at length do agree to the same, & shall strictly follow it, provided we can bring those troublesome Nations to reason & submission without War, and live peaceably as we do with the Southern Indians; to this end we shall stay all hostilities, and make use of our younger Brothers the Shawanese, who live near them, to convince them of their folly, and presumption, and, if this has a due effect, and that these Nations will join heartily in promoting peace, and abiding by their ancient agreements, we shall be well pleased, and shall not make war upon them. This Brother, you may be assured is the determined resolution of us all, and therefore you may depend upon it that we shall observe what we have said to you. A Belt 10. Rows.

Brothers. We have endeavoured as much as possible hitherto to keep our people sober & quiet; We are very sensible, that it would overset the business, if our people got Liquor, for, as our young men, are with difficulty kept within bounds, when sober, it is certainly impossible to do any thing with them when drunk. We therefore now assure you, that it is our resolution during the course of this Treaty to keep ourselves sober, and should any Kegs of Liquor be brought amongst us by the Traders we will on discovery stave them to pieces.

Gave three strings.

Brother, We have now answered you sincerely and from our hearts on one part of the business which has occasioned our present meeting, & we hope that it will be agreable to you, and are ready to proceed on the rest.—They then conferred for some time in private after which Sir William addressed them.

Brothers—The Six Nations and others here Assembled.

I have attended seriously to your answer concerning the War you proposed to engage in; I have as well before, as during the course of our proceedings here said so much to you on the subject, that I persuaded myself you would be convinced, and am glad to find you are so; and I know, that it must appear as a striking proof of His Maj$^{ty's}$ humanity and regard for you all, and that you may easily perceive that I have had no other motive in recommending it to you, than my Friendship and sincere wishes for your prosperity. I know, that there are some parties of yours that are now gone to the Southward. As this is not consistent with the pacific sentiments you have expressed for the Southern Indians, I think, they should be recalled; and when you send to the Shawanese for the purposes you have mentioned, I recommend it to you to make choice of wise Deputies, good Men, who will faithfully execute the trust you repose in them, sincerely wishing for your own sakes that you may faithfully abide by the resolutions, you have now expressed to me.

Brothers. I am very glad that you have determined to let no Rum come amongst you, as that Liquor will not only obstruct business, but may be productive of the most dangerous consequences. You see and know the pains I have taken to prevent it, and I hope that you will do the like on your parts, agreeable to your promise.—

Brothers, The King, my Master, having received all the papers, and proceedings relative to the great Treaty at Fort Stanwix, together with the Deed of Cession, which you then executed to him, has laid them before his Council of great Men, and after considering the whole of it, has signified to me (what I hope will be deemed a further instance of his paternal goodness) that he did not require the Lands so far to the Southward, if it was of the least inconvenince to his Children, whose interests he has, so much at heart. He has at length in compliance with your own desires, as transmitted by me, and the public grant that you made, impowered me to ratify the same by letters I have received from the Lord, who is one of His Maj$^{ty's}$ Secretaries (holding the letter in his hand), which I now purpose to do.—You all knew the Deed of Cession, of which this, (shewing a Copy) is a true copy. You all know that it was executed in a public meeting of the great[est] number of Indians, that has ever assembled within the time of our remembrances, and that all who had any pretensions were duly summoned to it. You all remember the great, and valuable present you received upon that occasion, exceeding any thing you had ever seen. Yet notwithstanding all this, I find that there are some of your Dependants who live by your toleration, and who never had any Title to the soil, who talk, as if they were dissatisfied with your Act, or doubted your authority. It is therefore incumbent on you, to see into, and make diligent enquiry ab^{t} it, and to shew these people, if any should there be, their Folly.—This I expect you will do without delay, as a testimony of your gratitude to the King, and in justice to yourselves; and I expect that upon this occasion, you will make choice of honest, wise Men, who will not deviate from their Instructions, but faithfully execute what you direct them. Fully persuaded, that you will do this, and that you are resolved to abide for ever faithfully by your engagements entered into at that time, I do now by virtue of the powers to me given in the name, and on behalf of his Britanic Majesty, Ratify and confirm the whole of the Treaty made at Fort Stanwix in 1768, and also the Deed of Cession to the King then executed (except what relates to the private grants, which his Maj^{ty} will consider of) and I do declare, that the same is ratified accordingly. A Belt.

The Indians, in answer expressed their satisfaction at what Sir William had said, to which, as it was very late, they deferred giving an answer until next day.

then adjourned.

At night Sir William had a conference with a principal Sachem and Warrior of each Nation, when he spoke with them on the subjects for the meeting to morrow — he found that besides some grievances, which were to be the subject of the future proceedings, the Indians were suspicious, that the English intended totally to neglect, and disregard them, and that this opinion daily gained ground amongst the several Nations. The Chiefs spoke with much warmth on the reduced state of those living under our Arms (as they called it), namely, the Mohawks, and others living amongst our settlements, who they remarked had been very usefull to us, and were now greatly neglected by the English. — The Mohawks in particular, (supported by the rest) signified their desire to speak in public, that His Maj^{ty} would take their case into Consideration, and allow them a Missionary, observing that they, and their Fathers had been Christianized, and attended for many years by Ministers of the Church of England — that a former King had built them a Church, and had taken much care of them, but that they have been now for many years without an English Clergyman, which gave them much concern. — Sir William, foreseeing, that these, and many other matters of a private nature, would if spoken in public, furnish part of the Confederacy with subjects for disagreable reflections, represented to them, that there would be no occasion to bring matters before the rest of the Nations, in which they were not particularly concerned, as he would lay them before His Maj^{ty}, from whose generous sentiments and pious regard for their future welfare, they might expect that they would be attended to.

The Sachems and Chiefs of Canada Indians desired a conference in public with Sir William, and being assembled, their Speaker addressed him.

Monday — July 22^{d} 1770.

Brother. We have desired to speak to you in this public manner on an affair which concerns ourselves, and which has occasioned great uneasiness amongst us. — Brother, you know us for many years — we knew you, and esteemed your character, when we were in the arms of the French, and when you came down with the army to Montreal ten years ago; you then spoke to us, gave us good words, and by the order of the General gave us solemn assurances, that if we did not assist the French, but permitted you to descend the River without interruption, we should be placed among the number of your friends, and enjoy our rights and possessions and the free exercise of our Religion forever. — This we believed, for we knew your character, and had a confidence in you, and accordingly agreed to your request, and have ever since behaved in such a manner, as to demonstrate our fidelity, and attachment to the English.

Brother. You allways give us good words, and have shewn yourself our friend. It is therefore with concern we tell you our grievances at this time occasioned by the ill disposed people who give disturbance in several quarters.

Brother—You are not ignorant that there are many Men, of whom we have before complained, who are no longer our friends, and either guided by interest, or, perhaps from resentment on finding our attachment to the English, endeavour to alter the minds of all the great Men, who have been sent to command in Canada, and to misrepresent us to them. Through such means our brothers at S^t^ Regis, have been distressed for sometime past by Intruders imposed on them from another nation, who have no pretensions to live in their village; and last winter, a Frenchman named Clingancourt, came into our principal village of Cagnawagee, bought a house privately, and was no sooner settled, than he began to create much disturbance by telling false stories to the Commanding Officer there, and giving countenance to immoralities, that are highly displeasing to us. Our Priest who is a peaceable good Man, endeavoured as far, as was in his power to restrain these disorders in the usual manner, and to punish the offenders according to the Religious forms of our Church, but was threatned, and treated with the greatest contempt, so that he could not do his duty, through the artifices of this Frenchman. This gives us great concern, and if we are not redressed, we may in a little time be deprived of the use of that Religion, the use of which we were assured should be permitted to us. We therefore earnestly request, that you will take this matter into serious consideration, and if you shall think it fitting, that you may lay it before the King, that we may not be interrupted hereafter in the exercise of our Religion, or our priests prevented from inflicting such pains and penances, as our Church requires, on offenders.

A Belt 7. Rows.

To which Sir William answered.

Brothers. I have harkened to your speech, and do assure you, that I have not forgot any part of the engagements we formerly entered into, and which it is his Maj$^{ty's}$ intention shall be strictly observed in every particular. You have therefore nothing to fear on that account.

The affair of S^{t} Regis, I understand has been lately settled to the satisfaction of the Indians of that place; and as to what you mention respecting your village at Cagnawagee, I make no doubt, that it would be soon settled in the like manner, on my acquainting the Governor of Quebec therewith; but, as he is now I understand, sailed for England, I think, the readiest method to gratify your desire, will be by letter to the Frenchman. I shall accordingly write to him in a proper manner, and give Col: Claus Instructions about the affair on his return to Canada, which will be in a few days.—

You may be assured of His Maj$^{ty's}$ Esteem & that I shall continue to shew you all the friendship in my power, so long as you continue to promote peace, and adhere faithfully to your engagements. Returned their Belt.

The Indians spent the Forenoon of this day in Council, and about noon Sir William had a conference with some of the Chiefs on the subject of their answer.—In the afternoon the Indians sent to acquaint Sir William that they were assembled.

At a Congress. with the several Nations of Indians, Monday July 22nd 1770.

PRESENT— as before.

Conoquieson asked whether Sir William was ready to attend to what they had to say—On being answered in the Affirmative,

Abraham stood up and addressed him as follows.

Bother Gorah Warraghiyagey.

We are now met together in full Council to answer you concerning what you last spoke to us about the King's having received our Deed, and the proceedings at Fort Stanwix, with his Ratification of the same, with which we are highly pleased, and we shall also speak on what you have mentioned concerning the discontent some Indians have expressed at part of our Cession. Brother, We beg therefore that you will attend to what we have now to answer.

Brother.—When we met you to so great a number, and in so public a manner at Fort Stanwix, we should have hardly acted as we did, unless we had been possessed of a full right to the Lands, and had full authority to do so. We are surprised that any doubt can arise abt it. You very well know, that our Title has been allways Indisputable. As to the pretensions of any inconsiderable people behind our backs, we shall soon silence them, and we now desire, that you may assure the King, that it was *our* property we justly disposed of, that we had full authority to do so. We return the King the sincere thanks of all our Nations for ratifying the same, and we again confirm it, promising to abide always thereby. A Belt 8. Rows.

Brother. We are very happy to hear of the good disposition of the King towards us, and the assurances you give us on that occasion. We are highly pleased with the indifference the King shews for Lands, and we consider it as a sure sign of his regard, that he does not love to see us at war.

Brother. We are not desirous of making war, but when the same appears necessary. We therefore now acquiesce with your advice to us, and shall let the Southern Nations alone, provided they act a proper part towards us. But Brothers, whilst we express ourselves so disposed, we cannot help reflecting on the treatment we still continue to receive, particularly on the Southern Frontiers, where our people are frequently Robbed and murdered, and no reparation made for all this. If we inclined to be silent on such conduct, our young Men would force us to speak, and that warmly; they would soon be for Revenge, as the provocation we have received, is too great to be longer born with.—Brother. We request that the great King will give orders to his Governors, and great Men concerning these matters, assuring you that we are disposed to abide by our engagements, and restrain our young people, but that we cannot pretend to do it, unless a speedy end be put to the behaviour of the people who have so repeatedly attacked us.— A Black Belt of 10 rows.

Brother. At the Treaty at Fort Stanwix you then told us, as you had done before, that we should pass our time in peace and travell in security, that Trade should flourish & goods abound; that they should be sold us cheap, & that care should be taken to prevent any persons from imposing on us—Brother, this would have endeared all the English to us—but we do not see it—It is now worse, than it was before, for we cannot get goods at all at present, and we hear from all Traders, that nobody will bring in any, and that you have none for yourselves.

Brother. We should take up a great deal of time, if we repeated all that we suffer by these things, but you must be yourself sensible of them, and therefore we rely upon you that you will lay these matters before the King, and represent our situation, so that he may hearken to our words, and afford us redress. A Belt of 10. rows.

Then Conoquieson stood up and said.

Brother. Agreable to what you yesterday recommended to us, we have now fixed upon four Chiefs from amongst us, who are men of sense that will faithfully deliver our words to the Shawanese, of which number Thomas King is the principal, who is a Man, that you may be assured, will faithfully execute whatever is desired of him.—Then acquainted the Six Nations and Sir William Johnson, that, by the death of Gawehe a Tuscarora Sachem, there was a vacancy at the Council fire, & accordingly raised up Tarriwahwage to supply his place with the usual ceremonys. After which Saghtaghroana, on behalf of the Seven Nations of Canada stood up and said.

Brother, We the Nations living in Canada express our sincere thanks to you for having by your prudence and wisdom brought all the Nations here into one way of thinking, which no other person could ever have effected. This is a great work Brother, and it gives us a great pleasure, and, I now speak to you and all the Nations in public upon it.

Brother. When we united ourselves with the English on the reduction of Canada, we then resolved to act like Men, to be true to our engagements and to scorn lyes,—We then agreed for the preservation of peace, that the Caghnawagees should have their eyes on the Council Fire of the Six Nations at Onondaga, and the other Council fire at your house, whilst our Brethren at Canasadaga should have their eyes upon all the Nations up the Ottawá or great River to the Westward.—Brother, we did this, we always gave you true intelligence, and studied to promote peace; for Brother, we are Men of our words, Men who despise double dealings, and are incapable of deceit. We shall still act up to that character, & our actions shall prove the truth of what we now say. We resolve in order to promote the work, which you have begun, and so successfully conducted, to send proper Deputies to the Indians to the Westward, taking that part of the negociation entirely upon ourselves, and we shall agree with the Six Nations in the Message they send, that we may not speak with two mouths upon so important an occasion. The Men we shall make choice of, shall be such as we may place the utmost confidence in, & they shall have orders from us to return by way of Detroit and Fort Pitt to your house to bring you a faithful report of the Negotiation.

Then shewed the Belt which they purposed to send. Then Abraham the Chief returned Sir William the Belt which he had sent to the meeting at Onondaga last fall cautioning them not to let their warriors go to war, or enter into any rash resolves until they heard from him —with this having complied, they, according to custom returned the Belt.—After which Abraham returned the Belt sent last spring by Sir William to the Seneca's Country, to require them to collect all the horses they could, the property of the white people, and to deliver them up. All which they promised strictly to comply with, and to prevent any from being taken in future by their people, or dependants.

The Speaker then acquainted Sir William, that they had finished all the material business of the Congress.

To all which Sir William answered as follows:

Brethren of the several Nations here assembled.

I am well pleased with the answer which you have given me on the several subjects, and I hope that your actions will correspond with the words you have made use of.—As I am well acquainted with your claims & pretensions, I considered the murmurings of some of your Dependants, as of little importance.—It is nevertheless a duty which you owe to yourselves to put a stop to them, and I am very glad to hear that you have taken resolutions for that purpose, which I hope, and expect you will see performed.

Brothers. It is with concern that I hear you complain, that the people on the southern frontiers still continue to molest you, because I know that great pains have been taken to put a stop to such behaviour.—Brothers, You know, that I have often told you upon that subject, that I have reason to believe much of the ill treatment you meet with, proceeds from the indiscretion of some of your young people, when passing through that part of the Country, amongst people who suffered severely during the war; I shall nevertheless, as you desire, lay your complaint before His Maj^{ty}, who, I am persuaded, will give any orders that may be further necessary for your security; and I am certain that the several Governors will use their utmost endeavours for that purpose; but I expect in return that you will give the most strict caution to your young people that they govern themselves in a peaceable, quiet manner, when they resort to that Country; for otherwise, you cannot expect that the Inhabitants will treat them with kindness.

Brothers.—I very well remember all the promises that have been made you, and also the engagements between us.—You all see that they are committed to writing in your presence. I know that amongst other things, you received assurances of a free, and plentiful Trade, and I can confidently assure you, that you will still enjoy the same. It is true, that for some little time goods have been scarce, but I can now inform you, that they will be again in great plenty, as the Merchants have now sent for large cargoes which may be very soon expected at New York, and a large quantity is already come to Montreal, according to certain advices I have lately received. I have likewise the pleasure to acquaint you, that (although the affair has taken up some time from the distance of some of our Colonies from the others) there is now a good prospect, that the affairs of Trade will speedily be regulated on terms of advantage to you all, as I have heard that some Commissioners for that purpose are already met, and more on their way to the place appointed for determining thereupon. I shall however comply with your request in laying this matter before the King on whose attention to these, and all other affairs in which you are interested, you may safely and confidently rely.

Brothers. I approve of the manner you have resolved upon to send Messengers to the Shawanese, and of the Men you have chosen, for that purpose. But, as I likewise intend to send Messengers as well to the Shawanese as to Michilimacinac, I shall expect to be made acquainted with the purport of your Message that we may both correspond on that subject.

Brothers of the seven Nations of Canada

I thank you for your honest and spirited address to myself, and all here assembled, and I greatly approve of your resolutions to send Messengers in the manner you propose. I shall gladly join them with Messengers from myself, to which end it will be necessary that I know, what you intend to charge them with, that we may unite in Sentiments.

Then it growing late, and a Thunder storm coming on, Sir William thanked them all for their accordation with him in sentiments and adjourned.

Tuesday July 23^{d} In the morning the Indians all assembled in Council.

PRESENT — as before.

Sir William having desired their attention spoke as follows:

Brothers of the Six Nations, of Canada, and all others here assembled.

Having now brought the business of this Treaty to a favourable conclusion, I cannot help expressing my satisfaction thereat, and at the readiness, and unanimity which the Chiefs have manifested upon this occasion. It only now remains, that I close this Congress, in a suitable manner by adding strength and weight to our proceedings.—I do therefore by this Belt, renew and strengthen the covenant chain, or alliance entered into between our ancestors and yours. I likewise clean and brighten it, so that it may not contract any rust, and I do assure you on the part of the great King, that we shall take care to hold it fast, and preserve it unhurt to the latest posterity. if you will on your parts be observant of the part which is in your hands, and take equal care of it. I likewise declare, that it is the intention of His Maj^{ty} and all his subjects to abide by, and fulfill the engagements with you, so far as is possible, and I recommend it to you all to make public the transactions of this Treaty throughout all the Nations to the setting of the sun; and as you value yourselves, and wish to be happy, to abide by, and faithfully perform all that you have promised.

Gave the Belt of the Covenant Chain, after which every Nation gave the Yohah.

Brothers. Notwithstanding the great additional expense which the King, my Master has been at in bestowing favours on such an additional number of Indians, as by the reduction of Canada have been admitted into our alliance, his Maj^{ty} is still mindful of you, and has therefore been graciously pleased to consider your present wants by ordering you a handsome present, which I have brought to this place and which shall now be delivered to you. I hope that you may retain a grateful sense of these, and all other Marks of his Royal favor, and that you will always be studious to merit the continuance of his protection and friendship, and the regard of all his subjects.

Brothers the Missasagas. I am glad that by your attending at this Treaty you had an opportunity of observing the friendship subsisting between the English and your Brothers here assembled, and the unanimity with which we have brought several weighty matters to an agreable conclusion. I recommend it to you faithfully to relate the particulars that have passed here, to your Nation, and confederacy, at your return, assuring them of the Friendship of the Great King, and that I shall allways preserve a sincere regard for them, and their interests, so long as they continue to merit it by contributing to diffuse the blessings of peace throughout the Country within their influence, and by joining heartily in promoting the several matters of importance agreed upon before me by their friends and Confederates— A Belt.

Bretheren of the several Nations here Assembled.

Every thing for the present beeing agreably adjusted, and concluded upon, I have only to add my expectations that you will be steadfast in fulfilling your engagements, and I now close this Treaty with my kindest wishes for your prosperity.

Brothers the Cherokees.

You have heard the conclusion, & determination of the Six Nations, and their Confederates; and upon maturely considering all circumstances I hope they will prove agreable to your

Nation, to whom I desire you will faithfully report all the transactions at this place assuring them of my friendship, and that I am much obliged to them for the grateful sense, which from the Belts you delivered me, I find they retain of my endeavour in effecting the peace between them, and your Brothers here assembled, that I shall always continue to promote it, trusting that they will do the like on their parts, and sincerely wishing, that by attending to the words of your Brother in Carolina, who has the care of you, you may continue to deserve the esteem of the great King, and all his subjects. 2. fine Belts.

The Six Nations then renewed their engagements with the Cherokees, acquainting the Deputies, that as they had now come to a final resolution before Sir William Johnson, they hoped that the same would be found satisfactory to the Cherokees.

The Nanticoks[1] then addressed Sir William, requesting that he would give them a Passport, and letters to the Gov^{r} of Carolina, that they might go, and bring the remainder of their people from thence, and dispose of some land they yet have there. A Belt.

They then earnestly requested, that he would prevent the Traders from bringing any more Rum down the Susquahanna, as they who lived there, were determined to abstain from drinking, seeing so many murders committed by means thereof. A Belt.

Sir William promised them, that he would grant them a Passport, and also write in their favor to the Gov^{r} of Carolina concerning their lands there, and recommended a proper conduct to them as they passed thro' the several settlements. ettc. a Belt.

Sir William also promised that he would do all in his power, to discourage the bringing of Rum to their settlements, and expressed his approbation of the resolutions they had taken, and wished them to continue firm in the same. Returned a Belt.

The Cayuga Chief then arose, and acquainted Sir William and the Six Nations that the Delawares, Monsies, ettc living at Chughnot,[2] Wialosing[3] ettc had promised to remain where they now live, & not regard the invitation of their Countrymen living at Ohio, and further assured the Six Nations, that they would act agreable to their directions.

Spoke with two Belts.

Then the Chiefs of the several Nations assembled to consider of an answer to the Covenant Chain Belt, and after some time spent, Abraham the Mohawk Chief stood up, and in the name of the Six Nations and Canada Confederacy ettc repeated what Sir William had said on said Belt, and returned their most hearty thanks for renewing the Covenant and they on their parts did the same.

The Onondaga speaker then arose & acquainted Sir William that they appointed Taganaghquaghsee in the room of Kanajiakaia deceased, Tawahmgseraghse of Karaghiadirra[4] in the room of Odongota Chieftain of the Warriors, and two more of the Onondaga Nation. All which they hoped he would approve of, and give them such testimonials ettc. as are usual on these occasions. Sir William admitted, and approved of their recommendations, and after giving the appointed Sachems the necessary admonitions, he told them that he would at next general meeting give them the proper testimonials ettc. which he had at his house.

A large Belt.

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[1] Although these Indians have been generally considered a Maryland tribe, it appears by the text that they originally came from Carolina; they afterwards migrated to the eastern shore of Maryland and thence up the Susquehannah. They exist no longer as a Nation. *Gallatin's Synopsis of the Indian Tribes.* — Ed.

[2] See VII., 50, note 5.

[3] See III., 394, note.

[4] See VII., 723, note.

Wednesday Morning the Chiefs of each Nation present waited on Sir William at his quarters to let him know the purport of their Message, to be sent by their Deputies to the Wawiaghtanakes, Piankashaas, Kickapos ettc, which is as follows:

Brethren. These Deputies from the Six Nation Confederacy are now sent to inform you of the peace established between us and the Cherokees, as well as the good harmony and union that subsists between us, our Brethren, the English, and all the Nations of Indians to the rising of the Sun, at the same time to let you know our surprise and displeasure at your untoward and unruly behaviour towards some of our people, as well as to our Brethren the English, who are employed carrying goods to the Illinois for your use, and that of all the Indians in that quarter, which shews that you are not in your senses. Wherefore we now take you by the head, and shake you so, as to bring you to them, and also take that hatchet out of your hands, which you run about with, doing Mischief. Should you still prove obstinate, and persevere in your wickedness, they are in that case authorized by the whole Confederacy now assembled to tell you, that the consequence will prove fatal to you. Repent therefore of what you have done, otherwise you will inevitably involve your Nations in a War, which must terminate in your ruin. A large Belt shewn.

The Canada Confederacy consisting of Seven Nations then told Sir William, that as they intended to wait on him to his house (in their way home) they would there acquaint him with the purport of their Message to those troublesome Nations who were now like Men void of sense, running about with a sharp Axe in their hands at a time, when he was endeavouring to spread peace over all the land.

The Missisagas also came to acquaint Sir William, that they intended to wait upon him to his house, where they had something to say to him relative to their Nation.

Sir William after having returned the Chiefs his hearty thanks for the part they had acted during the Congress, and expressing his approbation of the Message which they intend sending to the ill disposed Nations, told them, and the Canada Confederacy, Missasages ettc, that he intended also sending them some Belts which should coincide with theirs in a great measure. Then told the Canada Indians & Missisagas ettc, that he would be glad to see them at his house, as he had something particular to say to them. Then Sir William ordered provisions for all the Nations on their journey home, and after parting with them in the most friendly manner, sett off that morning for his own seat accompanied by above one hundred and fifty Indians ettc, and followed by several other parties, on the private affairs of their respective Nations.

The foregoing is a true copy, ex^{d} by me

RICH^{d} SHUCKBURGH[1] Secretary for Ind^{n} Affairs.

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[1] RICHARD SHUCKBURGH who, if he did not compose, at least introduced the popular and well known air of *Yankee Doodle* into this country, was of German origin, and received a commission as Surgeon of Captain Horatio Gates' Independent Company of New-York, on the 25th June, 1737. *Army List*, 1758, 137. Whilst encamped at Greenbush, in the neighborhood of Albany, during the French war, to please, it is said, some eastern levies, he composed a tune and recommended it to the officers as one of the most celebrated airs of martial music. The air took, and in a few days nothing was heard in the Provincial Camp but *Yankee Doodle.* Little did the Doctor imagine the renown which awaited the air that he had recommended in joke. *Farmer & Moore's New Hampshire Collections*, III., 217. On the death of Captain Wraxall, Sir Wm. Johnson nominated Dr. Shuckburgh Secretary for Indian affairs in 1759, when he left Captain Gates' corps; but the appointment was not confirmed, Witham Marsh having been sent out in 1761 to fill the office. *New-York Commissions*, V., 211. We find Dr. Shuckburgh next appointed, 22 December, 1762, Surgeon of the 17th Foot, then serving in America, to which regiment he continued to be attached until 1768, (*Army Lists*, 1765, 1769,) when he succeeded Mr. Marsh, and filled the office of Secretary of Indian affairs for several years. He received a grant of land in May, 1755, in the present town of Glen, Montgomery county, N. Y. — ED.

The Six Nations then ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible] thereby that as they had now come to a final Resolution [illegible] before Sir Wm. [illegible], they hope that the [illegible] found [illegible] by the Cherokees.

⑫ The Nanticokes then requested Sir Wm. ~~that Sir Wm. would give~~ 21 July 1770
them a pass=port & Letter to the Govr. of Carolina
that they ~~may~~ might go & bring ye. remdr. of their People
from thence, & Dispose of Some Land they still have there

& Delivered A Belt

21 July 1770

They ~~by another Belt begged~~ then Earnestly requested that he would
prevent ~~any more Rum~~ the Traders from bringing any more Rum ~~going~~ down ye. Susquehana
as they ~~were~~ who lived there were determined to ~~leave off~~ Abstain from Drinking, seeing
so many Murders committed by means thereof. —

A Belt

Sir Wm. Ansd. them that he would grant
them a pass=port & also write in their favr. to ye. Governor
of Carolina concerning their Lands there, & recommended
a proper Conduct to them as they past thro ye. Several
Settlements &ca.

A Belt

He also promised them that he would
do all in his power to Discourage the ~~sending~~ bringing of Rum to
their Settlements, And expressed his approbation
of the resolutions they had taken, & wished them to continue
firm in the same. —

returned a Belt

The Cayugae Cheif then arose & acquainted
~~Sir Wm.~~ the Six Nations that the Delawares & Monsies &ca. living
at Chughnut & Wialosing &ca. had promised to remn. where they now
live, & not regard the Invitatn. of their Countrymen living at Ohio.
& further assured the Six Natns. that they would act agreeable to their
Directions. —

Spoke wt. 2 Belts

Then the Cheifs of the Sevl. Natns. assembled to consider
of an Ansr. to the Govr.'s Chain Belt, after some time spent, &

(1)

Unanimous the [illegible]; the Speaker and in ye Name of the whole Confederacy, he repeated wt. Sir Wm said on ye Belt, and returned their most hearty thanks for renewing the Covent. and then on their Parts did the same.

The Onondaga Speaker then arose & acquainted Sir Wm. that they appointed Sakanaghquaghsa in ye Room of Kanajiakaia deceased & Awadungeraghse of Theraghia-Dirna in the Room of Odongoda Cheiftain of the Warriors. — & 2 More of the Onondaga Nation ~~[illegible]~~ which they hoped he would approve of, and give them such ~~writings~~ testimonials &ce as usual on ~~such~~ these occasions. — ~~[illegible]~~ Sir William admitted & approved of, Recommending them after giving the new appointed Sachims the necessary admonitions. He told them that he would at the next General Meeting give them the proper testimonials &ce, which he had at his House,

A large Belt —

Wednesday Morning The Chiefs of Each Nation present waited upon Sir Wm. at his Quarters to let him know ye purport of their Message to be sent by their Deputys to the Wawiaghtanakes, Pianhashaas, Kickapoos &ca — wch is as follows —

Brethren These Deputys from the Six Nation Confederacy are now sent to Inform You of the Peace established between Us & the Cherokees, as well as of the good Harmony & Union that Subsists between Us, our Brethren the English & all the Nations of Indians to the rising of the Sun. At the Same time to let you know our Surprise & Displeasure at yr untoward & unruly Behaviour towards some of our People, as well as to our Brethren the English who are employed carrying Goods to the Illinois for yr. Use & that of all the Inds. in that Quarter. which shews You are not in your Senses, Wherefore we now take You by ye Head & shake You, so as to bring You to yr. ~~Senses~~ and also to take that Hatchet out of yr. Hands which you ~~run~~ a bout with doing Mischief. Should You still prove obstinate, & persevere in yr. Wickedness, they are in that Case authorised by the Whole Confederacy now assembled to tell You the Consequence will prove fatal to you; repent therefore for what You have done, ~~else~~ otherwise you will inevitably involve Your Nations in a War wch must terminate in yr. Ruin. A large Belt Shewn —

The Canada Confederacy Consisting of 7 Natns then told Sir
Wm that as they intended to wait of him to his House in their
Way Home they would there acquaint him, with ye purport
of their Message, to those troublesome Nations who were now like
Men void of Sense running abt with a Sharp Kn in their Hands at
a time when He was endeavouring to spread peace over all ye Land.

The Missisageys also came to let Sir Wm know
that they intended to wait upon him to his House, where they had
Something to say to him relative to their Nation.—

Sir Wm after returning the Cheifs his Hearty
thanks for the part they had acted during the Congress, & expressing
his approbation of their Message wh they intend sending to
these Ill disposed Nations, told them, & the Canada Confederacy
Missisagaes &ca. That He Intended also, sending them some
Belts, wh should Coincide with theirs in apeace measures.
Then told the Canada Inds. & Missisageys &ca that he would
be glad to See them at his House, as he had something partic
lar to say to them.— ~~After which He took his leave of them~~
~~in the most friendly Manner, & set of that Morning for his own~~

~~He~~ then ordered provisions for all the Nations
~~to~~ on their Journey Home, and After parting them in the
most friendly Manner, sett off ~~for~~ that Morning for his
own Seat accompanied by above 150 Inds. ~~[illegible]~~
~~of many~~ and followed by sevl other partys on the [illegible] of their respective
Nations.

ACT OF VIRGINIA ON INDIAN TRADE, 1770.

WHEREAS his Majesty has been graciously pleased to direct that the Regulations of the Indian Trade for the Future shall be committed to the care and management of the Colonies, and Whereas it is conceived that the good purposes thereby intended cannot be fully answered without the co-operation of the several legislatures of the neighbouring Colonies concerned therein for obtaining whereof, Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Burgesses of this present General Assembly, and it is hereby Enacted by the Authority of the same, That Richard Bland, Patrick Henry and Thomas Walker, Esq^{rs}, be, and they are hereby appointed Commissioners on the part of the Colony of Virginia, and fully authorized and impowered to meet and confer with such Commissioners as are or shall be appointed by the several legislatures of the Colonies of Quebec, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Pensylvania, and the other lower Counties on Delaware, to agree on a general Plan for the Regulation of the Indian Trade; And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Commissioners for the Colony of Virginia, or such of them as shall meet the Commissioners appointed or to be appointed for the said neighbouring Colonies, shall, with all convenient speed, after such meeting or meetings, make full and perfect Report or Reports of such Regulations or Plan as they shall agree upon in conjunction with such other Commissioners as are or may be appointed by the Legislatures of the said Neighbouring Colonies to the Governor and Assembly of this Dominion for the time being, in order that a proper Law or Laws may be passed, if the said Report or Reports shall be by them approved; And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that Provision shall be made for paying the reasonable Expences which shall accrue on the part of this Colony in the performance of the service aforesaid, when the amount thereof shall be known by some future Act or Acts of Assembly, to be passed for that purpose.

MINUTES OF COMMISSIONERS ON INDIAN TRADE, 1770.

Philadelphia, June 28, 1770.

At a meeting of the Commissioners appointed by a Law of the Province of Pennsylvania, to meet with Commissioners of the neighbouring Provinces to form a general Plan for the Regulation of the Indian Trade.

Present:

WILLIAM LOGAN,
WILLIAM RODMAN,
WILLIAM WEST,
JOSEPH GALLOWAY,
JOHN ROSS.

The Commissioners, taking under their Consideration the several Letters from the Governors of New York, Quebeck, Virginia and

Maryland, respecting the meeting of the Commissioners of the several Provinces, appointed by the Governor of New York, on the tenth Day of July next, with the Act appointing Commissioners for this Province,

It was unanimously agreed:

That as no appointments are made by the several Legislatures of Virginia, Maryland and New Jersey, nor has the Legislature of Maryland had an opportunity of making such appointment, the Board intended to be constituted is imperfect, and therefore that a meeting of the Commissioners of this Province, at the Time appointed, will be without Authority, and by no means answer the Purposes intended by the Act appointing them.

Earl Hillsborough to Gov. Penn, 1770.

Whitehall, July 6th, 1770.

Sir,

I am very much concerned to find, by your Letter of the 19th of May, No. 21, which has been laid before the King, that a Disposition continues to prevail amongst the the Merchants of Philadelphia to concur with the Merchants of the other Colonies in the unjustifiable Combinations for Non-importation of Goods from Great Britain, which is now become an Evil of such Magnitude as to require the serious Consideration of the supreme Legislature.

I am, Sir,
Your Most Abedient
Humble Servant,
HILLSBOROUH.

Directed,
Deputy Governor Penn.

Conoquieson (Indian) to Sir Wm. Johnson, 1770.

Extract of a Talk from Conoquieson to Sir W^{m}. Johnson, July 22d, 1770, at a Congress with the several Nations of Indians.

Brother,

We are not desirous of making War, but when the same appears necessary. But, Brother, whilst we express ourselves so disposed, we cannot help reflecting on the treatment we still continue to receive, particularly on the Southern Frontiers, where our People are frequently robbed & murdered, & no Reparation made for all this. If we inclined to be silent at such conduct, our Young Men would force us us to speak, & that warmly. They would soon be for Revenge, as the Provocation we have received is too great to be longer borne with. Brother, we request that the great King will give Orders to his Governors & great Men concerning these matters, assuring you that we are disposed to abide by our Engagements & Restrain our Young People, but that we cannot pretend to do it, unless a speedy end be put to the Behaviour of the People who have so repeatedly attacked us.

A Black Belt, 10 Rows.

Brother,

At the Treaty at Fort Stanwix, you then told us as you had done before, that we should pass our time in peace, & travel in Security, that Trade should Flourish, & Goods abound, that they should be sold us cheap, & that care should be taken to prevent any Person from imposing on us. Brother, this would have endeared all the English to us, but we do not see it. It is now worse than it was before.

DOCTOR THOMAS BOND TO GOVERNOR, 1770.

Sir,

I this Day visited the Brigantine Georgia Packet, Capt. John Sowder, from Georgia. I saw the Captain very ill of a Fever, the Mate and one of the other Mariners on the Recovery from Fevers. I was informed that others of the Crew had also been ill. The Fever appears to Me to be of such a Nature, that I am of Opinion the Vessel ought not to be admitted into the Port untill she is purified, nor the People brought into the City untill they are recovered. But I am also of Opinion the sick should be brought on Shore, if Houses & clean Beds are provided for them at a Distance from any of the Inhabitants.

THO. BOND.

Sep^{r}. 25, 1770.

Directed.—To his Honour the Governour.

EXTRACT OF LETTER SIR WM. JOHNSON TO EARL HILLSBOROUGH, 1770.

The rest of the proceedings, which consisted in the ratification of the Treaty at Fort Stanwix & the Subject of Grievances, will require my saying some little upon. As to the first your Lordship will observe sufficiently from the public Conferences, the Satisfaction expressed by the Indians at the whole of that Treaty with the Resolutions they have taken to render it permanent & acceptable to all their dependants. The latter are only the principal Grievances which were spoken in public, besides which there were many others of an inferior nature not inserted, as they would have added much to the Bulk of my Transactions, & might be deemed unworthy the Attention of Government, they nevertheless gave me much Trouble & occasioned great Delay, which was of most Concern to me, as the daily maintenance of such a Number of Indians amounted to a large Sum, to abridge which I gave them my whole time, both by Day & night, & thereby considerably shortened the time of our Sitting.

Your Lordship will find that the principal Grievances complained of in public, regarded the Conduct of Our Frontier Inhabitants towards them & the State of the Indian Trade; the First (as I have repeatedly observed) is what they have but too much Reason to complain of, & which they have retaliated in a very few Instances, though I know the Contrary is too often represented. I have on former Occasions said so much of the licentious Spirit of the Inhabitants on the Southern Frontiers, that I need only add it still continues, & their Malevolence & Disregard to all Treaties is still demonstrated whensoever they fall in the way of any small Parties or single Indians. Even since I began this Letter I have received Dispatches from M^r^. Croghan, my Deputy, now at Fort Pitt, acquainting me that a Soldier had shot at an Indian there, & that another was killed by a Virginian two days after near to Charles River, the Continuance of which proceedings will render all Transactions with them abortive.

As to the Affairs of Trade, I wish I could say that they had no Cause of Complaint, but the Contrary has been too often manifested of late. Commissioners have been appointed to meet from some of the Colonies, but it is not expected that any Expence will be incurred adequate to the Service, in which Case it is much better to do nothing, & *that* it is thought will be the Consequence of their Meeting.

Another Circumstance much complained of, as well during the Treaty as since by those Indians who accompanied me to this place, is of the great Cargoes of Rum which (of late in particular) are sent amongst them, to their Ruin as they call it. Many Traders carry little or nothing else, because their profits upon it are so consider-they requested me lately to write to you about, I do therefore beg the favour of You to expedite it all in yr. Power, & Send me the Patent with an Acct. of the Fees which I shall imediately order to be paid, they haveg. given me their Obligation for the Same. Mr. Adems & Tice Spoke to You about it lately when at York. Mr. Cockburn[2] made the Survey last Year, it is I think abt. 16, or 17000 Acres.

I hope You have been able 'ere now to finish the Patent for 14000 Acres Joining to the Rear of Kingsborough. If You have pray Send it up, & the Acct. of the Fees wh. shall also be imediately paid by an order on Mr. Mortier. You will also please to Send me the Bonds wh. are in yr. Hands. — & beleive me Dear Banyar, Yrs. Sincerely

& Affectly. —

GOLDS BORROW BANYAR Esqr. — W JOHNSON

INDORSED:

Augt. 2d. 1770

From Sir Wm. Johnson

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[2] Will Cockburn.

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

A.D.[1]

August 10th. 1770

Takawaron an Oneida Cheif in a private Conferrence wth. Sir Wm. Told him that notwithstanding all the pains taken by this Village of Kanonwaroghare, (at [*my*][2] His desire) to Unite those of that Nation living at Oneida on the Hill with theirs, that Ganaghquaissa opposed it, and declared that he would have nothing more to do with Sir Wm. or ye. English but look entirely to the Six Nat^{s}. &^{ca}., & so prevented y^{e}. rest (who were disposed to Settle at Kanonwaroghare) from Joining them. wherefore He, [*was*] with y^{e}. rest of his Castle were determined to have nothing farther to do with him, but would follow Sir W^{ms}. Advice in everry thing and begged that he would on everry occasion afford it to them, & that He might depend on their strictly observing it. —

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Indian Records, Vol. 9.

[2] Words italicized and in brackets are crossed out in manuscript.

He then Requested Sir W^{m}. would appoint Sachems for their Village, of the best & Wisest Men amongst them, w^{h}. would enable them to transact business with more Spirit & Judgment, adding that if Sir W^{m}. was at a loss who to appoint, he would let him know who were the best & properest Men [*for*] then named Skonondosse.

Lastly He told Sir W^{m}. that the Minister slackened greatly in his care of the Indians under his Charge, that he never dare Say any thing to him on that head, not knowing but it might be disagreable to Sir W^{m}., therefore desired to know his Sentiments thereon.

thus ended —

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

A. D.[1]

[*July 28-August 11, 1770*]

Saturday 28th. July 1770

Brothers of the 7 Nations of Canada attend to what I have to Say. —

At the General Congress[2] held a few days ago by me at y^{e}. German Flats, The Number of Ind^{s}. so far Exceeded my Expectations, that I found y^{r}. Share of the present would be verry inconsiderable, where[*upon*] fore I invited You all, & yr. Brothers the Mississageys to my House, in order to give you also a Proof of his Majestys regard. I am now glad to See you all Safe arrived, & bid You heartily welcome. —

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Indian Records, Vol. 9. The first part of the record is in Sir William's hand.

[2] From July 16 to 23, 1770, Johnson held a Congress at the German Flats with the Six Nations, Canadian Indians and Cherokees. *Doc. Rel. Col. Hist. N. Y.* 8:227-44.

3 Strings —

Bretheren of Canada Confederacy, Mississageys &ca.

I am now to return You my hearty thanks for the part you acted at the Congress, in assisting me to bring Matters to so happy a Conclusion, as also for yr. readiness in offering to Send proper Messingers to these foolish Nats. to ye. Westward, which I am in hopes if properly conducted will bring them to their Senses. The better to effect this End I now deliver you a Belt & Pipe wh. I desire yr. Messingers will deliver to them in my name, This, when Joined with Yours & that of the Six Nation Confederacy will I am in hopes bring them to reason. I have now only to recommend to Your Deputys who are to go to them Nations, a faithfull discharge of the Trust reposed in them, wish them Success, & a Safe return.

A Belt for ye. Western Nations

Another Belt to recommend Unanimity to the 7 Nats. in Canada & a proper behavr. towards their Bretheren as ye. Surest means of their continuing a Happy People

Belt.

Bretheren of the Mississagey Nation —

As You attended at the General Congress & heard what passed there, I desire You will make it known to all Yr. People, and [*as well as*] also to those Nations in Alliance with You, and I expect You will make use of yr. Influence to bring [*about*] those foolish People to their Senses before it be too late. —

A Belt —

Their Speaker Sagtaghroana Stood up, and in behalf of the 7 Nats. of Canada Expressed their great Joy at the good opinion I entertained of their fidelity &ca. And Assured Sir Wm. that they would forever observe his directions, having buried in their Hearts the good Advice he gave them in ye. Year 1760 when he recd. them into the Covt. Chain, that they were determined to live in the

Strictest freindship wth. their Bretheren the English, & Should any Difference Arise between them, they will imediately endeavour to Settle it Amicably, — they farther promised to Send the most faithfull & Sinsible of their People as Deputys to the Westward, who Should deliver my Message faithfully to them Foolish Nations, as well as their own, and concluded wth. hoping that the Great Spirit would prosper the Undertaking.

They took the Belts with them —

Then Sir W^{m}. Told them that as he had finished the Business of the Meeting to their Mutual Satisfaction, He would in the Afternoon Deliver them the Present w^{h}. he Intended for them, & desired to know of them how they proposed Dividing it. —

They returned his Majesty many thanks for his Goodness to them, and told Sir W^{m}. they would chuse to have it all together for the 7 Nations, and promised to make an equal Distribution of it.

After the Meeting was ended with all y^{e}. other Nations Sir W^{m}. took the Ottawa Cheif Ohayowess of Arbre Croche[3] who came to See him from y^{e}. Ilinois into his Room, and after getting a good deal of Information from him relative to Western Nat^{s}. & the conduct of the Spaniards at New Orleans (where he Staid 3 Weeks) Sir W^{m}. Gave him in charge Several Belts to be delivered by him to his Nation at Michilimacinac, with the result of the late Congress desireing they would imediately communicate it to the Sever^{l}. Nat^{s}. around them, and requireing them to [*lend a hand*] offer their Aid to y^{e}. good Work now in hand. — All w^{h}. he promised faithfully to do —

[4]Then the Abinaquis of S^{t}. Regis spoke as follows

Father

We your new born children having heard that we had a kind father representing the great King of England, living at a great Distance from Us we determined to see him, and now being arrived at your dwelling place [*of habitation*] we agreable to our Custom open your Ears & wash your Eyes that you may hear distinctly & see clear.

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[3] Near Michilimackinac.

[4] From this point in hand of Daniel Claus.

Gave 4 Strings

Father

By this String of Wampum we open our hearts to you, & hope you will open yours to Us.

4 Strings.

Father

By this Belt of Wampum [we] express our Joy & Satisfaction to meet you our kind father and are most sensibly happy of coming to your Council Fire & to shake hands with you; We your children were of late but small & hardly to be seen, but [*when*] hearing we had a father we at once became tall and conspicuous.

a White Belt of Wampum

Father

You know (speaking to Col^{o}. Claus), that we have now lived above 11 years at S^{t}. Regis, Our Breth^{n}. the Iroquois received us then well; but after we had cleared our fields, we heard bad News from our Brethern w^{ch}. was that we could not remain there, we did not mind it till now, & We did not intend to trouble you ab^{t}. it, we therefore spoke to the Gover^{r}. of Canada to settle these Aff^{rs}. he settled them to our Satisfaction & we are going to show you his Speech to us. —

a String of 6 Rows

Children

You have a right to [*the Woods*] the Crown Lands as well as any other Nation of Ind^{ns}., this is the Speech he gave us recommending in y^{e}. mean time Peace & Tranquility to us; Every thing was quiet till now; [*And*] last Winter we employed workmen to [*ma*] build houses for us, our Breth^{n}. opposed themselves to these workmen taking their Tools away and telling them that unless they obtained S^{r}. W^{m}. Johnson's permission to work or build houses for the Abinaq^{s}. they should not do a Stroke, that when they returned with S^{r}. Will^{ms}. decision in s^{d}. Aff^{r}. they would acquiesce & abide thereby. And this Father [is] the principal Errant that brought us here.

producing Gen^l^. Carletons String of Wamp^m^.

Father

We beg you will pity & hear us; Behold here these old people before you (pointing at 2 old Men of their Tribe) whether they will be capable of establishing themselves anew, And We beg you give our Bretheren the Iroquois to understand not to molest us, but let us live in peace at that Place for the future, and build the Necessary Dwelling places for our Shelter. We have taken Refuge to that place on Acco^t^. of Drunkenness w^ch^. so much prevails in the other Ind^n^. Town in Canada, we dont complain to you of our Distress [*to you*], you will know how to act towards children you never saw before. [*The much more*] Considering Father that you have more Understand^g^. in your little finger than we in our whole Body, we beg you will give us leave to break of now being but indifferent Speakers And have not sufficiently considered upon some points w^ch^. we are going to reconsider & give the result thereof after dinner. —

A black & white Belt

Father;

It is several years ago since we intended to pay you a visit but for want of an Interpreter were oblidged to postpone it, this year we have prevailed upon M^r^. Hertell[5] to conduct us hither we dont dont doubt [*that*] but our Father will pay some Regard to the Journey he undertook for us. Father you was pleased to allow Interp^rs^. to any Nation of Indians that stand in Need of them, And we beg you will grant us M^r^. Hertell to be ours as he understands our Language as well as that of the Iroquois & other Nations, we all hope You will grant us that favour to your new children who will never be troublesome to you, and you will never see us coming without a Call. —

Lastly father as we have no chiefs appointed Us by our Father we have appointed two ourselves whom we expect you will give some Marks of Distinction as is customary on the like Occasions. —

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[5] John Jacob Hertel.

This is all father we have to say at present being unwilling to tire your patience.

Whereupon the Speaker shook hands with S^{r}. W^{m}.

Gave 5 strings of Wamp^{m}.

Sir William then told the Abinaquis that [*as what they said required some Consideration as it was containing several material points, and when*] he would give them his Answer as soon as he [*was, was ready*] had considered of it. —

[6]Monday August 6th. 1770

The Abanakees Being Met in the Council Room

Sir William addressed them in answer as follows —

Children —

I am Glad to See You here, & that you Continue to Observe y^{r}. Antient Customs of opening my Ears, and Washing my Eyes, as I now do Yours, that You may attend to what I say. —

4 Strings —

Children —

I open Your hearts that You may speak the Sentiments of them, & nothing else; as You shall Always find, I shall do towards You. —

4 Strings —

Children —

I thank You for the Satisfaction You express at Seeing me, and do Assure You that I am equally pleased at Seeing You at my House, & shaking You by the Hand, but I ought to remind You that it is not lately, that You have discovered a Father in me, You have a long time known me, & the Office I bear, and You may rest Assured, that, as long as You behave like Dutifull Children, and I continue in that office I shall endeavour to promote Your Interest wherever I can with propriety. —

A Belt

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[6] From this point in Sir William's hand.

Children —

As to the Speech You Address to Co^{l}. Claus I shall answer it from his own report & representation to me.. Co^{l}. Claus has not been 11 Years in Canada, So that he cannot positively speak concerning y^{r}. Situation at that time, but as far back as 10 Years ago he remembers You to have been rambling between Osswegatchy and S^{t}. Regis, and that the Cheifs of the last Village afforded You a Temporary Residence, but no more, and that Your desire to remain there was verry disagreable to the Indians, occasioned much Trouble, & was likely to be attended with ill Consequences, and that it was beleived You were excited to this by Some Interested Individuals. —

Children —

The Coghnawagaes & Indians of S^{t}. Regis have more than once, and particularly at the last Treaty Complained to me of the Advantage You were about to take of their Temporary Indulgence, and requested that a Stop Should be put to your proceedings, (here shewed them y^{e}. Speech made lately by the Coghnawageys &^{ca}.) which I wish to comply with, because I know You have no pretensions there, And I should be greatly concerned to See you Quarrel amongst Yourselves. The Indians of S^{t}. Regis are descended from the Original Proprietors, of course have a Right there, You who were born in another part of the Country can claim no Title to Land but where You were born, wherefore You should not intrude, or press Yourselves on them People against their Inclination, as in that case You could never live together amicably. —

A Belt —

Children —

It is not the Coghnawagaes & S^{t}. Regis Indians Alone that are dissatisfied with your Conduct, the Six Nations are extremely displeased with it, as they often declared to me So that your persisting must breed ill blood between You which I should not like to See, I am therefore fully persuaded that if this Matter had been truely represented to Gov^{r}. Carleton, You would have rec^{d}. another Answer, especially as S^{t}. Regis is out of the Limits of his Goverment.

A Belt

Children —

I Consider the Hardship it must be for Old People to move about, & wish to See You Settled where you will be more agreably received, & free from faction or Party Disputes. There are many places free from Drunkenness besides S^{t}. Regis, and the best way to avoid that Vice is to resolve firmly as becomes Men that You will not be seduced by Liquor, However I shall be glad to Assist in procureing You a Residence amongst the 6 Nat^{s}. or others, As I cannot think y^{r}. Stay at S^{t}. Règis Elligeble

A Belt

Children —

Altho You had no Concern in the Affairs of the late Treaty, & consequently cannot be supposed to come on that Acc^{t}., yet I am realy glad to See You, & I shall always be ready to Attend to anything You have to Say, as well as to Serve You as far as in my power, I am heartily Sorry that in the case of Interpreters I cannot do as much as I could wish, There are many Tribes much more numerous than You, that have none, and as it is not in my power to incurr any farther Expence on that head, I beleive upon Serious reflection You will not expect it.

4 Strings —

Children —

Having, after due deliberation, answered Your Speech, I have nothing farther at present to add, [*but*] than to recommend to y^{r}. Serious Consideration what I have Said to You, and that you [*will*] do act agreable thereto [*which*] will I am certain [*will*] be the best thing You can do. —

August 10th. —

Then their Speaker arose & after returning Sir William thanks for his Advice &^{ca}., told him they would consider of it, and make him a Reply in the Afternoon. —

At 12 the Cheifs of the Mississageys & Abanakis came & condoled with Sir W^{m}. on the loss of his Grand Child, a Daughter of Col. Johnsons[7] who was buried Yesterday. — and at 4 P M The Abanakees being Assembled in the Council Room

Their Speaker Jean Babtest pourneut — addressed Sir William

Father

We have thoroughly considered wt. You said to us in the Forenoon, and agree to what You advised, and beg as we cannot imediately quit the present place of our residence to remain 2 years there. In 2 years time we can find out another place, as we have land of our own but it is now Cut into peices by the English, except a Small peice. — We shall go as Soon as we have time to See whether the English have left us any, if they have we will move there & you shall never more hear of any dispute or trouble abt. Us. In the Spring You will hear from Us how matters go, & that by Mr. Hartel, and we request that when Settled there we may be allowed a Preist. all wh. we look upon to be in yr. power —

Father —

When we Settle at this new Settlement proposed We earnestly request that no other White man than Our friend Mr. Hartel may be allowed to Settle amongst or trade with us, as others bring Rum among us, wch. is our ruin and we beg that the Indians of Aughquissasne[8] may not molest us in building a House there the timber of wch. lyes ready on the Spot and after the Expiration of two Years, If we cannot Dispose of Said House, we will lock it up. and we request that Mr. Hertel may remain unmolested as long as we Stay there, & trade with us. We Agree to the proposed Removal at yr. Desire, but should pay no regard to that of the Aughqussassnees.

A Belt —

August 11th. 1770

Children —

I am glad that You have thoroughly weighed what I said to You, and that You agree to remove to yr. own Lands, which is much better, than to remain where You are, in opposition to the Proprietors thereof, as You could never live freindly together, therefore I think y^{e}. Sooner you move y^{e}. better. If the English have cut, and taken y^{r}. Land or former place of Residence as You say they have, It must be with the Kings permission, for He has given Land to His Warriors as a token of his approbation of their Services during the War in America, and that cheifly out of the Conquered Land, of which I beleive yours is a part, — As to allowing You a Preist, I doubt not, [*w^{t}.*] but, that when you are Settled in a Body And make proper Application, [*for one*] You will be allowed One. As well as the other Tribes in Canada. —

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[7] Guy Johnson.

[8] The Indian name of the village of St. Regis.

A Belt —

Children —

[*With regard to*] Y^{r}. Request concerning y^{r}. Freind M^{r}. Hertel [*it*] at that [meeting] shews y^{r}. great kindness for Him, at the same time that it [*shews*] evinces a great partiality to y^{e}. rest [*on y^{e}. part*] of y^{r}. Bretheren. [*for His Majesty Y^{r}.*] The Great King of England y^{r}. Father in his proclamation of 1763 (now in my Hands) did not think proper to make any distinction between his English & Canadian Subjects, but allowed thereby that all [*his subjects*] should have an equal liberty to trade, which is as much indulgence as any reasonable People could expect. This being the Case, You cannot hinder any of the Kings Subjects who have the Governours Lycence to trade wth. those Indians who are thereunto inclined, but it is at y^{r}. Option to Trade with whom you please. and when once Settled in y^{r}. own Town, You can allow whom you [*please*] chuse to live amongst You or refuse them as You like. As to the House [*you say*] You want to build at Aughquissasne, I can only say that as I am unacquainted with y^{r}. Motives for building such a House as I understand that is intended to be, and as Co^{l}. Claus my Deputy is now going to Canada to Settle all Matters with the Ind^{s}. there, I shall direct him to enquire into the true state of that Affair, & to Settle all Matters between You in the best manner possible

3 Strings —

Then Sir W^{m}. made him a Handsome Present, Gave him a Testimonial[9] of his faithfull Services, & provided Everrything for his long Journey. for all which he appeared verry thankfull & parted in the most freindly Manner. —

FROM HENRY VAN SCHAACK

A.L.S.[1]

Kinderhook 16 August 1770.

SIR

It is a long time Since I had the Honor of Writing you last this Silence has in a great measure been owing to the uncertainty I have in as to the Place of your being at. I hope Sir You are before now returned home and that you accomplished a happy conclusion of the important affairs that have called you abroad. The occasion of my writing you now is the Receipt of a Letter which was this moment handed to me from my Brother — I shall transcribe a Paragraph out of it which I hope will excuse for me with you for troubling you with it — briefly it is as follows — "New York 18 August I have a Secret to hint to you — Warm application is making to the L^{t}. Governor & the Council for the Office of Sheriff in Your County. No less a Man than [2] Mr. . . . . you can guess who I mean. Had this Gentleman instead of acting the Part he did in the House sided with those whom he now sollicits favors from, he would have Succeeded — At present he will not. In vain does he urge that he has always voted according to his conscience, this is but a poor Plea when he Sollicits People whose Conduct the very Argument Seems to impeach. He is rightly Served — he has forsaken his true friends and embarked with those on whom he can have no reliance, & who place no confidence in him as

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[9] "NB this was y^{e}. first y^{t}. was given"—Footnote in the manuscript.

[1] In Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

[2] Illegible.

Saturday 28th July 1770

Brethren of the 7 Nations of Canada attend to what I have to say.—

At the General Congress held a few days ago by me at ye German Flats, the Number of Ind.s so far Exceeded my Expectations, that I found yr Share of the present would be very inconsiderable, wherefore I invited you all, & yr Brothers the Missisageys to my House, in order to give you also a Proof of his Majestys regard. I am now glad to see you all safe arrived & bid you heartily welcome.— 3 Strings —.

Bretheren of Canada Confederacy the Missisageys

I am now to return you my hearty Thanks for the part you acted at the Congress in assisting me to bring Matters to so happy a Conclusion, as also for yr readiness in offering to send proper Messingers to these foolish Nats. to ye Westward, which I am in hopes if properly conducted will bring them to their Senses, the better to effect this End I now deliver you a Belt wh. I desire yr Messingers will deliver to them in my name, this, when joined with yours & that of the Six Nation Confederacy will I am in hopes bring them to reason, I have now only to recommend to your Deputys who are to go to them Nations, a faithfull discharge of the Trust reposed in them, with them Success & a safe return.

A Belt for ye Western Nations

Another Belt to recommend Unanimity to the 7 Nats. in Canada & a proper behavr. towards their Bretheren as ye surest means of that continuing a Happy People

Bretheren of the Missisagey Nation— Belt.

As you attended at the General Congress & heard what passed there, I desire you will make it known to all yr People, ~~[illegible]~~ also to those Nations in alliance with You, and I Expect you will make use of yr Influence to bring ~~[illegible]~~ these foolish People to their Senses before it be too late—

A Belt—

(101) Their Speaker Eastaghroana Stood up and in behalf of the 7 Nat.ns of Canada Expressed their great Joy at the good opinion Sr Wm entertained of their fidelity &ca And assured Sir Wm that they would forever observe his directions, having buried in their Hearts the good Advice he gave them in ye Year 1760 when he recd them into the Covt Chain, that they were determined to live in the Strictest Friendship wth their Brethren the Englh & should any Difference Arise between them, they will immediately endeavour to Settle it Amicably.— They farther promised to Send the most faithfull & Sinsible of their People as Deputys to the Westward who should deliver my Message faithfully to them Foolish Nations, as well as their own, and concluded wth hoping that the Great Spirit would prosper the Undertaking.

They took the Belts with them —

Then Sir Wm told them that as he had finished the Business of the Meeting to their Mutual Satisfaction, He would in the Afternoon Deliver them the Present wch he Intended for them, & desired to know of them how they proposed Dividing it.—

They returned his Majesty many thanks for his goodness to them, and told Sir Wm they would chuse to have it all together for the 7 Nations and promised to make an equal Distribution of it.

v [illegible] of this Booke

After the Meeting was ended with all ye other Nations Sir Wm took the Ottawa Chief who came to see him from ye Illinois into his Room, and after getting a good deal of Information from him relative to the Western Nats & the conduct of the Spaniards at New Orleans (where he staid 3 Weeks) Sir Wm gave him in charge several Belts to be delivered by him to his Nation at Michilimacinac with the result of the late Congress desiring they would immediately communicate it to the Several Nats around them, and requiring them to ~~assist~~ they said ~~[illegible]~~ in ye good Work now in hand — All wch he promised faithfully to do —

Child.ⁿ ~~Brothers~~ I thank you for the Satisfaction you express at seeing me, and do assure you that I am equally pleased at seeing you. but I ought to remind you that it is not lately that you have discovered a Father in me; you have a long time known me in the Office I bear.

Child.ⁿ ~~Brothers~~ As to the ~~last~~ Speech you address to Coll. Claus I shall Answer it from his own report & representation to me, Col. Claus has not been 11 years in Canada, so that he cann positively speak concerning your Situation at that time, but as far back as 10 years ago he remembers you to have been rambling between Oswegatchy & St. Regis, and that the Chiefs of the last Village afforded you a temporary residence, but no more; and that your desire to remain there was very disagree to the Indians, Occasioned much trouble, & was likely to be attende with ill consequences, & that it was believed you were excited thereto by some interested Individuals. — Brothers, The Caghnawaga Inds. of St. Regis have more than once, & particularly at the last Treaty complained to me of the advantage you were about to take of their Temporary indulgence, & requested that a Stop should be put to your proceedings, which I wish to Comply with because I know that you ha no pretensions there & I ~~was~~ should be greatly concerned to see you quarr amongst yourselves. You are originally Inds. of [illegible] that abandoned ye Country, resided for a time at Missisqui Bay & afterwards in other places, whilst the Inds. of St. Regis are descended from the Orig. prop

Child.ⁿ It is not ~~only~~ the Caghnawagas alone that are dissatisfied with ye Conduct All the 6 Nats. are extremely displeased with it, & your persisting must breed blood between you. I am therefore fully persuaded that if this matter had been truly represented to Genl. Carleton, you would have received another answer, especi as St. Regis is out of the Limits of his Govt. —

Child.ⁿ I sincerely pity the distress of yr. old people & wish to see you settled where you will be equally received. I am afraid you owe much of yr. distress to bad people abt. you who have interested Views. — There are many places free from Drunkeness besides St. Regis, & the best way to avoid Vices is to resolve firmly, & become then that you will not be seduced by Liquor. however I shall be glad to assist in procuring you a residence amt. the 6 Nats. or others, as I cannot think your stay at St. Regis quiet

Child.ⁿ Altho' you had no concern in the Affairs of the late Treaty & Consequently cannot be supposed to that goods yet I am really glad to see you & I shall allways be ready to attend to any thing you have to say & help as as far as is in my power. I am highly sorry that in the case of [illegible] I cannot do as much as I could wish. These [illegible] more Numerous than you that have gone, & it is not in my power to incur any farther expence [illegible] comply with your request & I believe upon serious reflection you will find it unnecessary.

Then the Abinaquis of St. Regis spoke as follows

ther We your newborn children having heard that
we had a kind father representing the great King of
England, living at a great Distance from us we
determined to see him, and now being arrived
at your dwelling place ~~of habitation~~ we agreable to
our Custom open your Ears & wash your Eyes
that you may hear distinctly & see clear.

✗ gave 4 Strings

ther By this String of Wampum we open our hearts
to you & hope you will open yours to us.

✗ 4 Strings.

ther By this Belt of Wampum express our Joy
& Satisfaction to meet you our kind father and
e most sensibly happy of coming to your Council
Fire & to shake hands with you. We your children
were of late but small & hardly to be seen, but when
hearing we had a father we at once became tall and
conspicuous.

+ a White Belt of Wampum

ther me
you know (speaking to Col. Claus) that we have
now lived above 11 years at St. Regis, our Brethr.
the Iroquois received us then well, but after we had
cleared our fields, we heard bad News from our Brethr.
which was that we could not remain there, we did
not mind it till now & We did not intend to troubl.
you abt. it, we therefore spoke to the Govern.r of Canada
to settle these Affrs: he settled them to our Satisfaction.
& we are going to show you his Speech to us

a String of 6 Rs

ildren you have a right to ~~the Woods~~ the Crownlands as well as any

other

Nation of Indns, this is the Speech he gave us recommending in ye mean time Peace & Tranquility to us; Every thing was quiet till now; And last Winter we employed workmen to ~~ma~~ build houses for us, our Brethn opposed themselves to these workmen taking their Tools away and telling them that unless they obtained Sr Wm Johnsons permission to work & build houses for the Abinaq. they should not do a stroke, that when they returned with Sr Willms decision in affr they would acquiesce & abide thereby And this Father the principal Errand that brought us here.

producing Genl. Carletons String of wamp.

Father, We beg you still pity & hear us; Behold here these old people before you (pointing at 2. old Men of their Tribe) whether they will be capable of establishing themselves anew, and we beg you give our Bretheren the Iroquois to understand not to molest us, but let us live in peace at that Place for the future, and build the necessary Dwelling places for our Shelter. We have taken Refuge to that place on acct. of Drunkenness wch so much prevails in the other Indn Town in Canada, we don't complein to you of our Distress ~~to you~~, you will know how to act towards children you never saw before. We considering ~~much better~~ Father that you have more Understanding in your little finger than we in our whole Body, we beg you will give us leave to break of now being but indifferent Speakers and have not sufficiently considered upon some points wch we are going to reconsider & give the result thereof after dinner.

A black & white Belt

Father,

It is several years ago since we intended to pay you a visit but for want of an Interpreter were obledged to postp it, this year we have prevailed upon Mr Hertell to conduct

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conduct us hither we dont dont doubt ~~that~~ but our Father will pay some Regard to the Journey he undertook for us.

Father you was pleased to allow Interpreters to any Nation of Indians that stand in Need of them. Sir we beg you will grant us Mr. Hertell to be ours as he understands our Language as well as that of the Iroquois & other Nations, we all hope you will grant us that favour to your new Children for who will never be troublesome to you, and you will never see us coming without a Call.

Lastly father as we have no chiefs appointed ~~among~~ Us by our Father we have appointed two whom we expect you will give some Marks of Distinction as is customary on the like Occasions.

All:.. .. What father we have to say at present

patience.

2 handsome [illegible] Wm.

[illegible]

Gave 6 Strings of wam.

Sir William then told the Abinaquis that ~~as~~ ~~what they said required some Consideration as it was~~ ~~contained several material points, and others~~ he would give them his Answer as soon as he had considered of it. ~~[illegible]~~ dy.

They met when Sir Wm. [illegible] them in Answer as follows.

Child:n ~~Brethren~~ I am glad to see you all here; & that you continue to observe your antient Customs of opening my Ears & Washing my Eyes, as I now do yours that you may attend to what I say.

Child:n ~~Brothers~~ I open your hearts that you may ~~allso~~ speak ingenuously to me as you shall allways find I shall do towards you.

Monday Augst. 6th. 1770

The Abanakees Being Met in the Council Room —

Sir William addressed them in answer as follows —

Children — I am glad to see you here, & that you Continue to observe ye. Antient Customs of opening my Ears, and Wiping my Eyes, as I now do yours that you may attend to what I say. —

2 Strings —

Children — I open your hearts that you may speak the Sentiments of them, & nothing else, as you shall always find, I shall do towards you. —

2 Strings —

Children — I thank you for the Satisfaction you express at Seeing me, and do assure you that I am equally pleased at seeing you at my House, & shaking you by the Hand. but I ought to remind you that it is not lately, that you have discovered a Father in me, You have a long time known me & the office I bear, and you may rest assured, that, as long as you behave like Dutifull Children, and I continue in that office I shall endeavour to promote your Interest wherever I can with propriety. —

A Belt

Children — As to the Speech you Address'd to Col. Claus I shall answer it from his own report & representation to me, Col. Claus has not been 11 Years in Canada, so that he cannot positively speak concerning yr. Situation at that time, but as far back as 10 Years ago he remembers you to have been rambling between Oswegatchy and St. Regis, and that the Chiefs of the last Village afforded you a Temporary Residence, but no more, and that your desire to remain there was very disagreable to to the Indians, occasioned much Trouble, & was likely to be attended with ill Consequences, and that it was

It was believed you were excited to this by some Interested Individuals. —

Children/ The Coghnawagaes & Indians of St. Regis have more than once, and particularly at the last Treaty Complained to me of the advantage you were about to take of their Temporary Indulgence, and requested that a Stop should be put to your proceedings† which I wish to comply with, because I know you have no pretensions there, And I should be greatly concerned to see you Quarrel amongst yourselves. The Indians of St. Regis are descended from the Original Proprietors, of course have a Right there, You who were born in another part of the Country can claim ~~none~~, Title to Land but where you were born, wherefore you should not intrude, or press your-selves on them & People against their Inclinations, as in that case you could never live together amicably. —

†shewed Speech made by the Cogeysts

A Belt

Children/ It is not the Coghnawagaes & St. Regis Indians Alone that are dissatisfied with your Conduct, the Six Nations are extremely displeased with it, as they often declared to me so that your persisting must breed ill blood between you which I should not like to see, I am therefore fully persuaded that if this Matter had been truely represented to Gov.r Carleton, you would have rec.d another Answer, especially as St. Regis is out of the limits of his Government,

A Belt

Children

I consider the Hardship it must be for Old People to move about, & wish to see you settled where you will be more agreeably received, & free from faction or Party Disputes. There are many places free from Drunkenness besides St. Regis, and the best way to avoid that Vice is to resolve firmly as becomes Men that you will not be seduced by Liquor. However I shall be glad to assist in procuring you a Residence amongst the Otta or others, as I cannot think yr. stay at St. Regis Eligible.

A Belt

Children

Altho You had no Concern in the Affairs of the late Treaty, & consequently cannot be supposed to come on that Acct, yet I am realy glad to see You, & shall always be ready to attend to any thing You have to say, as well as to serve You as far as in my power, I am heartily sorry that in the case of Interpreters I cannot do as much as I could wish, There are many Tribes much more numerous than You, that have none, and as it is not in my power to incurr any farther Expence on that head, I believe upon serious reflection You will not expect it;

4 strings

Children

Having, after due deliberation, answered Your Speech, I have nothing farther at present to add, ~~but~~ than to recommend to yr Serious Consideration what I have said to You, and that you ~~will~~ do act agreable ~~thereto, which~~ which I am certain ~~will~~ will be the best thing You can do. —

August 10th — Then their Speaker arose & after returning Sir William thanks for his Advice &ca, told him they would consider of it, and make him a Reply in the afternoon. —

At 12 the Chiefs of the Missisageys & Abenakis came & condoled with Sir Wm on the loss of his Grand Child, a Daughter of Col. Johnsons who was buried Yesterday. —— and at 4 P.M. the Abenakees being assembled in the Council Room

Their Speaker Jean Baptist Conzaneit addressed Sir William

Father We have thoroughly considered wt You said to us in the Forenoon, and agree to wt You advised, and beg as we cannot imediately quit the present place of our residence to remain 2 years there in wch 2 years time we can find out another place, as we have Lands of our own but it is now cut into peices by the English, except a small peice. — We shall go as soon as we have time to see whether the English have left us any. if they have we will move there & you shall never more hear of any dispute or trouble abt. Us, In the Spring You will hear from Us how matters go, & that by Mr. Hartel, and we request that when settled there we may be allowed a Priest all wch we look upon to be in yr power —

Father When we settle at this new Settlement proposed
We earnestly request that no other Whiteman then our
friend Mr. Hartel may be allowed to settle amongst or trade
with us, as others bring Rum amongst us, wh. is our ruin
and we beg that the Indians of Aughquissesne may not molest
us in building a House there the timber of wh. lyes ready on the spot,
and after the Expiration of two years, if we cannot Dispose
of said House, we will lock it up. and we request that Mr. Hartel
may remain unmolested as long as we stay there, & trade with us.
We agree to the proposed Removal at yr. Desire, but should
pay no regard to that of the Aughquissasnes.

August 11th. 1770

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Children,

I am glad that You have thoroughly weighed what I said to You, and that You agree to remove to yr. own Lands, which is much better, than to remain where You are, in opposition to the Proprietors thereof, as You could never live friendly together. ~~[illegible]~~ If the English have cut, and taken yr. Land or former place of Residence as You say they have, It must be with the Kings permission, & He has given Land to His Warriors as a token of his approbation of their Services during the War in America, and that chiefly out of the Conquered Land, of which yours is part. — As to allowing You a Priest, I doubt not, but that when you are settled ~~[illegible]~~ & make proper application ~~for one~~, You will be allowed One, as well as the other Tribes in Canada. —

better

A Belt —

Children. ~~With regard to~~ yr. Request concerning yr. Friend Mr. Wertel, ~~shews~~ it shews yr. great kindness for him, at the same time that it ~~shews~~ evinces a great partiality ~~[illegible]~~, The Great King of England yr. Father in his proclamation of 1763 (now in my Hands) did not think proper to make any distinction between his English & Canadian Subjects, but allowed thereby that all should have an equal liberty to trade, which is as much indulgence as any People could reasonably expect. This being the Case, You cannot hinder any of the Kings Subjects who have the Governours Lycense to trade with those Indians who are thereunto inclined, but it is at yr. option to trade with whom you please. and when once Settled in yr. own Town, You can allow whom you ~~please~~ choose to live amongst You, or refuse them as You like. As to the House you say You want to build at Aughquissasne, I can only say that as I am unacquainted with yr. Motives for building such a House as I understand it is intended to be, and as Col. Claus my Deputy is now going to Canada to Settle all Matters with the Ind.s there, I shall direct him to enquire into the true State of that affair, & to Settle all Matters between You in the best manner possible

3 Strings

+ [illegible] his company [illegible]
was given

Then Sir Wm made him a Handsome Present, gave him a
+Testimonial, of his faithfull services, & provided everything for
his long Journey. for all which he appeared very thankfull
& parted in the most friendly Manner. ——

FROM WILLIAM McADAM

A. L. S.

N. York July 30th. 70

SIR

The Inclosed 2 Bills Drawn on you by Major Gorham for £200 Sterling were Transmitted to me by Mr Jas Syme, who desired me to Convey his respectfull Compliments to you — If it Should so Happen that you Cannot accept the Bill — He begs your assistance to have a protest taken by a Notary Publick or Some proper person That he may have recourse on the Indorser: for the money The Governor, L. Dunmore is Expected daily: With much Respect I am

Your most obedt & very hum Servant

W McADAM

ADDRESSED:

To
The Honble.
Sir William Johnson Bart.
Johnson Hall

INDORSED:[1]
July 30th. 1770

Mr Mc.Adams Letter wth.
2 Drafts of Major Gorhams
for £200 Sterlg —
Answd. & Paid August
16th. 1770 ——

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[1] In Johnson's hand.

TO THOMAS GAGE

Df.[1]

Johnson hall August [July] 31st. 1770.

DEAR SIR,

I arrived here two days ago from the Treaty attended by a large party of Indians who return home by this rout, & for that reason left Several matters unfinished which must be now attended to,— The Misisagaes & sevl. others are likewise on their way here & may be Expected this Night or tomorrow. The issue of the Congress has proved more favorable than I at first Expected, the proposed War is put off, till they take some farther Steps with the Wabache Indians, and the rest of the business Notwithstanding the dissatisfaction of so many Tribes on sevl. Subjects, wherein they Expect relief has been Satisfactorily concluded & will I believe prove so, if their representations are regarded — Tho' the Congress was a very troublesome one, near 2400 Indians attendg which was more than I met at one time for many Years Except at the Treaty of Fort Stanwix, this was owing to the Number of Senecas that came, with all their people & Connections from the Head of the Ohio & tho it added greatly to the Expence, I own I was pleased to send see[2] a Sett from that Quarter as few of them have attended at any late Treatys of which Circumstance they have been too ready to avail themselves as an Excuse for their irregularities.

I have had so much & such constant Trouble with those that returned with me who are to receive their presents here, & have a 1000 little Affairs to settle That I have not been able to attend to any thing but them since I came home, and as sevl are Still behind, It will not be in my power to prepare & Send you the Transactions for a few days, so that I have only been able to Snatch a Moment to acquaint you with my return & that I Expect to transmit you the particulars next Week being always with perfect regard Dear Sir, &c

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[1] In American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.; in handwriting of Guy Johnson.

[2] The writer plainly intended to substitute "see" for "send". A force Transcript of the letter signed has "send".

His Excell^{y} GEN^{L} GAGE.

CHIEFS OF THE SEVEN NATIONS TO DANIEL CLAUS

D.

Tuesday 31st July 1770

The Chiefs of the 7 Nations of Canada [ ] Mons^{r}. Hertel with 20 Abenaquis [ ] way of Lake Ontario to S^{r} W^{m}. Johnson as [ ] their errand, but could not wait their Coming,[1] [ ] then on their way home addressed Col. Claus Dep[uty Indian agent for] Canada as follows

Brother

Having heard that a party of Abenaquis accomp[anied] by a Frenchman are coming to you, We imediately concluded [that] it must be M^{r}. Hertel with those Abenaquis who have so [often] disturbed the peace of our Village at S^{t} Regis, We see plainly that according to their usual practise they want to take advantage of our not being present in order to misrepresent matters, We know that it is not so much their [ ], as the Words which M^{r} Hertel puts in their Mouths, We heard sometime ago that he intended to come this way, and the Chiefs of S^{t}. Regis When we passed that Village on the Way to the Treaty entreated us to caution you against listening to them.

Brother,

---

[1] The chiefs of the Seven Nations were returning from the Congress of July 16–23 at German Flats. They had learned that the Abenaquis were on their way to Johnson Hall to present a statement of their quarrel with the St Regis Indians. *See* A Meeting with Aughquisasnes, August 21, 1769. The Abenaquis met Johnson August 6–11. The proceedings are in the Canadian Archives, Loose Leaf Manuscripts, Ottawa, Canada.

You know from what we have already represented to you, how the Affair Stands, & how these people obtrude themselves upon us And [ ] on your favor & protection, as we are [ ]me & Cannot stay their coming we beg [ ] the Engagements you entered into with us [in Canada formerly] as well as since, and that agreable [ ] you will not attend to their Misrepresentations, but [will protect our rights, & give Security to our people at S^{t}. Regis

Brother,

As we cannot Wait for an Answer [or attend] their Coming We beg that it may be transmitted to us by Col. Claus, that we may be enabled to communicate it to the Chiefs at St Regis,

Gave 5 Strings.

To which Col: Claus Ans^{d}.

Brothers

I have attended to your Speech and as I am well Acquainted with matter in dispute at S^{t}. Regis, I now [imm]ediately to Sir W Johnson, who you may be Assured will allways be disposed to protect you, and from whom I make no doubt that you will shortly receive a very favorable Answer.

INDORSED: 31st. July 1770
Speech of the Ind^{s}.
at Caghnawaga to
[Col. Claus]

FROM DANIEL CAMPBELL

A. L. S.

Montreal the 3^{d} August 1770

DEAR SIR

Meeting the Opportunity of the post I do my Self the pleasure of writing you this letter, altho there is no great news to be communicated. I will give what little there is — General Carelton is Saild from Quebec the first of this month for England Accompaned by Lady Susan Obrin & hir Husband, Cap^{t}. Obrin & his to Snatch a Moment to acquaint you with my return & that I Expect to transmit you the particulars next Week being always with perfect regard Dear Sir, &c

His Excelly Genl. Gage.

CHIEFS OF THE SEVEN NATIONS TO DANIEL CLAUS

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Fort Pitt August 8th 1770

Sir

Since I wrote your Excellency of the 10th of July a nother quarrel happened between the Redstone People & a party of Six Nation Indians which was very near drawing on a General Quarrel between those Settlements & the different tribes the Indians that was in this quarrel alarmed all the Nations in this Country & told them that the Government of Virginia made War on the Indian Nations which the different tribes readily believed, knowing there had frequent disputes & quarrels happen'd these two Years past between the Six Nations & those Virginia Settlements.

The different Villages call'd in all their hunters so far down as Sioto and kept night watches about their Towns at the same time Capt.n Edmonstone & I had the Chiefs & Principle Warriors of all the nearest tribes with us settleing the former disputes I have commited to paper by way of Journal the heads of what has passed between me & the Indians in presence of Capt.n Edmonstone on those unhappy differences to which I refer Your Excellency and by which You will see what the Indians mostly camplain of in those parts.

They Complain much of the great Quantitys of Rum brought out by our traders, & the setlers of Redstone & Cheat River and indeed with some reason for every Farmer is a Suttler And the Traders not being able to get Goods these two Years past has employed their horses in bringing little else but Rum which Certainly is attended with very bad Consequences & productive of all the disputes & quarrels

To His Excellency the Honourable
Major General Thomas Gage.

that happen between the Indians and his Majestys Subjects and may yet produce an open rupture And was none to suffer but those that make a practice of debauching them with Spirituous Liquors it would be little matter, but the misfortune is it wont stop there His Majestys Garrisons & the whole Country will be involved in the quarrel should such a thing happen, and unless some speedy Measures be taken by the Colonys to prevent such Quantitys of Rum being brought out and to regulate their Trade with the Indian Nations I fear it will not be long before they will find them selves involved in a quarrel.

Your Excellency will see by my Journal the several Conversations I have had with several Chiefs of the different Tribes, I am well persuaded that most of the tribes to the Westward would willingly pick a Quarrel with the English being encouraged to it by the French, nor do I think the Southern Indians so much the friends of the English as they are commonly thought to be The Shawanese & Delawares and One Village of the Six Nations where the White Mingo & Guiashuta lives are the only people in this Country that wish to promote Peace with the English, & this Disposition in them appears to me more owing to their situation being so near to us & their Villages laying between us & the different tribes, so that for their own safety more then love or Affection for us, I am persuaded they will do every thing in their power at their own General meeting to promote a peacable disposition in all other Nations.

They say the intent of their meeting is only to make up old differences amongst them selves & to promote a General peace between the Southern & Western Nations. But I am far from thinking that

To His Excellency the Honourable
Major General [illegible]

to be their only intentions, I know that all Nations of Indians are naturally a restleſs People I know they are all jealous of the growing power of the English in this Country & I think there is no doubt if they could bring about a general Confederacy (which I think they never can) but there may be some a mongst them which might think it then in their power to give the Colonys some trouble, which they certainly have in their power from the Irregular manner we settle our frontiers. though undoubtedly it must at lenth end in their ruin.

Yesterday the several Chiefs took their leave of Capt. Edmonstone & my self we have been lucky enough to have settled all the past differences with them, though I aſsure you I was two days & a night at a loſs what to think as a very great Majority was for attaching and driving the Virginians over the Mountains, however they are gone a way in seeming good Sentiments and peaceable diſpoſition and if the frontier People consult their own Interest & ease & use such as go a mongst them civilly I hope they will Continue so, otherwise I am affraid Captain Edmonstone will have a very troublesome time of it here this Fall.

I am under the neceſsity of informing Your Excellency that without any directions from you or Sir William Johnson in Order to patch up those unlucky quarrels that happened at this Post. and through the Country. and preserve the peace of his Majestys Subjects I have been Obliged to make an expence of a bout four hundred and fifty Pounds, besides drawing some provisions out of the Kings Stores I can aſsure your Excellency I did not intend to make any

To His Excellency the Honourable

expence when I came here but unforseen Accidents obliged me to it for
good of the Service, but if your Excellency is of Opinion that I have Acte
wrong in making such an Expence without Orders I will pay it
self. I shall stay here about a month longer & see the Issue of th
Indians General Meeting and give your Excellency every Intelli
that I can learn of their resolutions.

I am with great respect
Your Excellencys Most
Humble Servant
Geo: Croghan

Mr. Croghan Depy. Indn.
Agent.
Fort Pitt. August 8th 1760
Received Augt. 26th
Inclosing an Acct. of Proceedings
wth Indians —
Ansd.

To His Excellency the Honourable

On the Second of July 1770 I arrived at Fort Pitt where I was informed that there were some Chiefs of the Shawanese & Six Nations not far off encamped & that they had a few Days before a Council at the Six Nation Village above Venango at [illegible] week. there was several Indians of the Delawares Shawanese & Others trading at the Post who all came to see me, & from whom I learned that two Partys of Six Nation Warriors were passed by going to War against some of the Southern Nations but did not say against whom —

July 3d I sent for the Chiefs of the Shawanese & Six Nations and for one or two of the Principal Warriors of the Delawares that happened to be here a trading & I directed them to meet me at my House about four Miles above the Fort —

4th They met me agreable to appointment where I informed them what News was passing in the Six Nation Country as far as I knew. When they desired to know what News in England and France, or whether it was true that some of the Powers there was at War as they had been informed by some French Men from the Ouabache who had lately been amongst the Shawanese, to which I answered there had been a difference Subsisting for some time between the Spaniards and the French at the Mouth of the Mississippi and informed them the whole Affair as it happened which seemed to Stagger them, as the French had related it quite different and told them it was all over that they, that they were still in Possession of all the Country, that they only suffered the Spaniards to live there on Account of Trade. I then in turn asked them to inform me what News they had in their Country as I had been a long time away and in particular I desired to be informed what progress they had made in promoting the Peace between their Several Tribes and the Southern — Indians, on which they told me in general Terms that there was not much News amongst them at present That last year they had several of their People killed by their Brethren the White People and that they could not tell the Reason or whether their People was in the fault or not but they believed Spirituous Liquors was the Occasion of all their Misfortunes that their Brethren the English made it & brought it ^out^ Amongst them & that if their Brethren did not mean to Destroy them ~ they would not bring it to them to Drink as they knew the poor Indians does not know how to make Use of it and that when they can get it they drink it in such Quantitys, as intirely deprives them of all Reason

With respect to the Peace with the Cherokees they said they had not compleated it but that they expected the Cherokees (that went last Year to the Six Nation Country with some of the Six Nation Indians) to Attend a Meeting they were to have at the Plains of Sistta next Month where — Deputys from all the Western & Southern Nations were to meet about the full of the Moon —

When they had done speaking I thought it Absolutely necessary to Inform them of the Non importation Agreement of the Merchants in the Different Colonies in order to remove their Jealousy & Apprehensions that the great Quantity of Rum & Liquor that had been brought out to their several Nations was not done through design, that as the Traders could not get Goods they employed their Horses in carrying Rum, I recommended it strongly to them to consult their own Interest and fix a firm resolution amongst their several Nations not to purchase or drink any more Spirits, as they were now convinced that it was prejudicial to their wellfare & interest and to inforce what I had said gave them a very large bunch of Wampum

Upon another Belt I recommended it to them to use their influence in promoting Peace with all Nations as there was nothing His Majesty & all his Subjects wished more for, as the King was now at Peace with all European Nations. As soon as I was done Speaking & gave them a little Tobacco they departed to their several Camps

On the 5th I had a private Meeting with the Chiefs of the Six Nations who informed me of two Partys of their Nation being passed by to War against the Southern Nations One Party of Twenty Cayhugas, the other Party of Senicas, they told these Indians they would first go to the Cheroke Country & then determine who to Strike & told them there were Six partys more to follow them from the Six Nations

Those Chiefs told me there was to be a very great Number of Indians of all Nations to Assemble at the Siotha Plains in two or 1 Month in order to hold a great Council and endeavour to unite all in one general Confederacy and that all the Indians this Way of every Nation find much Fault with the Six Nations for their giving up so large a Tract of Country to the English. and never sending Deputys to inform the Nations this Way of it or how much of the Country they had given up they added they would inform me after the Council was over of every thing that should pass there —

In the Evening two Chiefs of the Shawanese came to see me with whom I had a very free conversation they informed me of every thing the others had said, with this Addition that all the Nations begin to look at the English with a very jealous Eye not so much for our extending our Settlements so far but that the English took no Notice of them as formerly and the People that were making Settlements on this side the Mountains abused them wherever they happened to meet them likewise they see our Traders bringing vast quantitys of Rum constantly amongst them and nothing else which they all take to be done with a Design of Destroying them & driving them out of this Country. besides the Usage they Receive at our Posts and from the English every where confirm them in this Opinion

You desired us to speake our Minds and inform you what gave us any uneasyness we have now told

[illegible]

Nations in this Country we are it is true a very foolish People but we are not alltogether so foolish a People as you may immagine we can see your Designs and are only sorry we did not see them before now. indeed it is too late and if we really consider our own real interest we ought to refrain drinking of Rum as we do not know how to use it in moderation as the White People do, and be on our Guard perhaps if the White People are so good as you have often told us they may yet let us live in Peace in the Country our Ancestors came through We likewise see the Conduct of the Six Nations they sold to the English two Years ago a large Tract of Country it was ours as well as theirs they took all the pay to themselves and now they repent what they have done, & did at the Time they were going to sign the Deed, & would have put all the English then present to Death if our Deputys had not prevented it; & yet the English say the Shawanese & Delawares are a very bad foolish People. Last Year the Six Nations would have made War at this place if we had not prevented it there was not one amongst them loved Peace but the White Mingo and he assisted us in our Councils — To promote Peace is what we wish for, and you may depend on what I tell you. that if ever there be a difference between the English and the Indian Nations again it will not be the Fault of the Shawanese and Delawares it is not our Interest We see there is now but the River Ohio between us besides our situation between you and all other Nations would Oblige us for our own Safety to establish Peace between you and all Nations

Now I have told you every thing that is in my Heart and you may be assured I will study the Interest of my with all Nations, and I wish all other Tribes of Indians were as well disposed to Peace as what we and the Delawares are for we plainly see our Ruin not far off should a War be determined on between the different Tribes & White People —

On the 8th a difference happened between a Drunken Six Nation Indian & a Soldier on the opposite side of the Monongahela where the Soldier fired on the Indian & put five Buck shot in his Side the Indian made off in the best manner he could and it is thought he can hardly recover. The same Night several trading Indians ran away from the Fort in order to alarm the several Villages as is usual on such Occasions. I was therefore Obliged to send off Indian Messengers to their different Towns to inform them what had been the true cause of this Accident and to call two Chiefs from each Village to speake with them and on the 9th Captn Edmonstone & I called the Six Nations together and condoled with them upon their Loss; which was all that could be done upon the Occasion

On the 12th a Six Nation Indian was shot by one of the Virginians settled near Cheat River; One Colo. Wilson of Virginia who is settled at Cheat River came down & gave the Account by which it appears that two Indians came to h: House with their Wives & one Child dealing some Skins &ca and when they went away took his Cannoe along with them upon which he with a Number of the Inhabitants pursued them which occasioned this Unlucky Accident —

Upon this Capt.^n Edmonstone and I was obliged to call the Six Nations together again and condole with them as before The White Mingo behaved extreamly well saying those two Men were his Relations, and that he was satisfi ed it was to Drunkeness and not any design in the English and that it should never change his Heart or raise any resentment against any of his Bretheren the English, but wished there could be some Method fallen upon to prevent such Quantitys of Rum being sent amongst them by the English Traders

15.^th Seven Cannoes of Indians passed by. they were Shawanese & Delawares that came from the Branches of Susquehannah & are now going to settle with their Friends on the Head Branches of Beaver Creek

16.^th Custeloga with about Forty Indians came here though the Six Nations and us sent only for himself and one other Chief

17.^th Five other Cannoes passed by with Indians from Susquehannah going to settle with their Friends at the Plains of Sciotha

19.^th Three Cannoes came up the River Ohio from the Six Nation Village at the two Creeks which is the Village the Man lived at who was Shot by the Soldier & bring an Account that he was not dead but in a Dangerous Way

20.^th I made several Speeches to the Indians on the happen between them and the English their Brethren owing intirely to the ill use they make of Spirituous Liquors & recommended it strongly to them to come to some Resolutions amongst themselves and prevent their People for the future from purchasing Rum but to Attend more to their own wellfare by establishing Peace & tranquility between their People & his Majesty's Subjects —

21st Six Cannoes more came up the River from the Two Creek Village & informed me that at the same time One of their People was Shot at Cheat River, there was a White Man likewise Shot which they say happened as follows As a Number of Armed White Men were very closely pursuing the unhurt Indian the Woman & the Child the Indian to save them as well as in Defence of his own life was Obliged to fire upon them which Stopt the pursuers but did not prevent their Seizing upon all their Peltry and other Necessarys they had with them besides —

22d Four Cannoes passed down the River full of Women & Children from the Susquehannah with Ten Men belonging to them who kept the opposite side of the River on the Path with their Horses, these People are following their Friends who went some time before in Order to make a Settlement on Beaver Creek & say there are several more yet a Coming —

24th A Six Nation Indian came here and informed the Indians and myself who was then in Council that

for a Month up the Monongahela, & that on their Return home they called at one Col^o. Wilsons, to purchase some Blankets but could get none. they then Bought some Rum there & went into the Woods made a fire & encamped, that two of them got drunk and was very noisey as they usually are when in liquor that late in the Evening two White men came to their Camp to whom they gave Victuals to eat such as they had and when they had done they lay down, but some time in the Night they stole away as he found at Day break when he got up: whether those two Men were afraid of the Indians that was drunk, or whether the Noise prevented them from Sleeping which made them go away he could not tell. So they prepared to set off when hearing the Noise of several Horses and seeing a Number of White Men riding very fast towards them with their Guns presented they told their Women to run away, when a White man spoke in Delaware desired them not to run away, but as they saw the White People attempt to surround them they ran for their lives. the White Men fired upon them which obliged them to leave every thing they had behind and that one of the Indians lay concealed behind a Tree to watch the White Men, which he see pack up every thing belonging to them and carry them off —

The Chiefs of the Indians then in Council spoke to Captain Edmonstone — Brother you see the great Mischief the Sale of Rum by your People occasions, which we have often complained of you see every day the Indians are kept drunk by your Traders so that we cannot meet in Council we desire now that you will put a Stop to it that our People may ~~be~~ get Sober &

& Consult coolly, & endeavour to settle those unhappy differences. it is in your Power & if you do not do it we must all go from this Place & leave every thing unsettled and we desire you may send for the People who live at Redstone & Cheat River that we may see them and our People together that we may find out who is in the Fault of those differences &c.

This Evening about Sixty Munsey Indians came down the River to see what was the Matter having heard of these Disputes

25th A Delaware Chief called Grey Eyes came to my House and told me he had been sent by all the lower Delawares and Shawanese which are settled upon the Moosgingum Hockhocking, & the Siotha to be informed what was the matter as some Indians that left this about fifteen days ago reported to them that the Government of Virginia had made War against the Indians that many were killed at Redstone Creek & Cheat River & that one was killed here. that in consequence of these Reports they had called in all their Hunters to their different Villages, and when he left home all their People were employed guarding their Towns and Watching the Roads as they expected every hour the White People would make a descent on their Country, that hearing I was come he had undertaken to come up and know the truth of this Report and desired I would call the Chiefs together immediatly that he might be informed of the whole Affair and the Occasion of such Report that he might return the same Afternoon as he had left the several Villages in the utmost Confusion

The Chiefs were directly called and all aſsembled when every thing that had happened was told to him & the principal Chief of each Tribe gave him a String of Wampum to carry home to his People aſsuring them that the Reports which they had heard was false that the Quarrels that had happened was intirely owing to Drunkenneſs & would be Amicably settled and desired that they would not again listen to any such idle Reports. I then spoke on a Belt & informed him what the Chiefs had said & recommended it to a Chief of the Shawanese who had been here all the time to accompany Gray Eyes and relate the whole Affair to his People which was approved of & they immediatly set off

26th I had a general meeting with the whole of the Indians about the Fort both Six Nations, Delawares, Shawanese, & Munseys when there happened to be Chiefs of each Tribe present with several Warriors & Hunters. I first condoled with the several Tribes for the Loſses they had sustained in the death of their People since we last met together in Council and gathered up the bones of their deceased Friends & buryed them in the Earth and covered them over as is customary on such Occaſions

I then spoke to them on four large belts one for each Nation & explained to them the imprudent conduct of their Warriors & Hunters in going a hunting amongst our Settlements and geting drunk with a People they did neither know nor understand & the vile practice of their Stealing Horses which was the chief Reason of all the misfortunes that happend between them & their Brethren the English

Then I recommended it to them again to consider their own Interest & refrain those Idle practices & to promote the good Works of Peace between their several Nations & His Majestys Subjects & to pursue their Natural employment of Hunting for the Support of their Women & Children which would be the likelyest way of establishing a lasting tranquility between them and us. I told them their past conduct appeared to me like their endeavouring to pick a Quarrel which could not end to the advantage of either them or us that they should call to mind the last difference that unluckeyly happened & the hardships they then experienced & I told them I was their Friend that I was sorry to see them behave so foolishly & recommend those Matters to their serious considerations and desired they would not suffer themselves to be led astray by false reports of other Nations or designing People amongst themselves that might lead them into a quarrel that they might repent so long as they lived - and then assured them all the jealous Notions they had formed & entertained of the English having any designs against them were intirely groundless & without foundation that every Method that could be taken by his Excellancy General Gage Sir William Johnston & the several Governours to preserve the Peace between them and us was done & they must be convinced that the many little disputes that has happened between their people and ours was owing to their imprudent conduct that they must be assured by long experience they did not know how to make use of Spiritruous Liquors for which Reason they ought to consult their own happiness & put a stop to their peoples

the Cause of all their Misfortunes

August 1st 1770 ~

The People from Redstone Creek and Cheat River being – come down on Captain Edmonstone's letter I assembled the Indians when the Six Nations appointed Gayashuta their Speaker who opened the Meeting as follows addressing himself to those – People from Redstone and said – That the Indian Chiefs were now assembled here to talk with their Brethren the White People and enquire carefully into the differences that had happened between them and the Indians in order that both ~ Partys might be able to know the Truth and be prevented from listening to any wild wandering Reports – And hoped that his Brethren came to this Meeting with a good and Friendly disposition such as he himself had for he was allways willing & desirous to preserve Friendship with them he hoped also that they would always keep such Friendly Sentiments in their Hearts – That the Indian Chiefs had assembled also to receive any complaints which their Brethren might have to lay before them they have already heard the Account which their own People gave of the Affair & Wished now to hear that of their Brethren as perhaps their People might have used them ill but he hoped however that the White People might tell the real truth and not aggrivate the conduct of their People as they must be – sensible that when his People get a little liquor it deprives them of their Senses and makes them not know what they are doing and on that Account he hopes the White People will make a proper allowance for what has happened and give them no Rum for the future if possible –

He and the other Chiefs had designed to have the People from Redstone Settlement summoned to this Meeting because it would be very wrong to listen to the Account of one Party only. that they did not know but their People had done amiss and therefore wished to have both partys together in order to come at the truth. He said he had not delivered all he intends to say on this Affair untill they have given ~~an~~ their Account of this Matter & related their grievances of which he has already observed he believes liquor has been the principal cause and that they should never give hunting Indians liquor or sell them any.

Mr. Schweringham then said on behalf of the of the People from Redstone Creek that he did not pretend to speake as a Chief or head Man of the Redstone People ~ only to relate what they had to complain of. that he did not pretend to judge or condemn either party only to tell what had happened before the Commanding Officer Myself and the Indian Chiefs and that he should ~~be~~ leave them to judge of it as they thought proper

That four Indians whom he knew came to his House in the Evening to buy goods that he sold to them such as he had they asked for Rum he refused them at first but he gave them afterwards half a pint and sold them some more when they were going away, in some time after they came back with a Keg and some Skins, said they had encamped about a Mile off (where he knew not,) got more Rum & returned to their Camp; some Hours after Eight People from the Settlement on the other side of the River came running to his House and told him, that the Indians was fired at them and were plundering their Houses these People at his Advice and persuasion agreed to let the Indians alone untill Morning in hopes that they would be sober then & return whatever things they might have taken: In the Morning some of the Young People went over the River to see how Matters were, and found that their Chests had been broke up many of their goods carryed away, that their Beds had been cut open, the Feathers thrown out and tumbled with several of their things about the yard. provoked by this Loss they followed the Indians to recover what they had taken away, he doubts not but it was the Liquor they got of him and some more which he heard since they had got at another place that was the Occasion — That the Indians had divided themselves into two partys and when they came up with one party of them they sent a Man who understood their language on before to tell them not to run away for they did not intend to hurt them only to get their own goods back again. The Indians said they had not any of their goods and ran away directly leaving all their things behind them. That when the White Men came up with the other Party of Indians who had a Horse loaded with the things which they had taken from the house, Three of the wild Young Men fired directly on the Indians, whether with a Design to hurt them or no he knew not but hopes they had no such intention as he had carefully advised that the Indians should not be hurted; that the Indians ran off leaving all their things behind, which the White Men took and amongst them part of their own goods, very much abused, a great part which he supposes was lost in the Woods, on account of the Indians being so much in liquor; that he doubts not but it was the Liquor they got from him and some more which he heard since they had got at another place that occasioned all this Mischief. That he did not immagine his selling liquor to them would be attended with such bad effects but that hereafter he would take care to let them have no more than a Dram, which he hoped would prevent any future Quarrels between them — That he must inform them that there were two poor White men (who had come up to that Country to raise a Crop of Corn) went out a hunting to procure some Provisions that as they were returning with a load of Meat some Indians met them who abused them grossly took their Meat, Horse, & Gun, from them forcably, He knows nothing particular of the Quarrel that happened higher up the River, the People of their settlement found a White Man dead in the Woods supposed to have been killed in that Quarrel when they buryed him they found his Horse lying dead beside him near a place where some Indians had encamped

As they have no head Man amongst them at their Settlement and as there are some wild foolish young Men amongst them whom it is hard to restrain he hoped his Indian Brethren would overlook what had past and assured them that the Redstone People would try to behave better for the future if it was in their power that there were foolish people amongst all Nations; with the Indians as well as themselves, and therefore they must forget what had happened. That there were several things amongst the Goods the

which they were ready to return if the Indians would send any body for them —

Gayashuta replyed — That he was glad they had met & heard their Story that he expected they had told him nothing but the truth — That since they did not lay the blame upon the Indians intirely nor yet upon themselves it was plain it was Liquor that had been the Occasion of these Accidents He was glad they were convinced they had Acted imprudently in the Affair and on that Account he hoped they would exert themselves and take care to avoid such improper conduct for the future that what he had said of its being hard to restrain their Wild young Men was very true. but that it was a Matter much more difficult to the Indians than to them — That their People were more ready to listen to them than the Indian young Men were to their Chiefs for that some of their Young men were so foolish that though their Chiefs were constantly talking to them to preserve peace & friendship with their Brethren they frequently could not get their young people to attend to or become thoroughly sensible of what they were saying to them on Account of their headstrong folly —

That the White Men must be sensible that there were Councils frequently held here in order to promote the Mutual Peace & Wellfare of them and the Indians that they should consider how much that proved the good intentions of the Indians but that it would be impossible to preserve friendship between them except they resolved whenever they happened to Meet to take each other by the Hand in a friendly manner and show each other every friendly Office in their Power and that he hoped whenever they should meet their Indian

That is was extreamly unfortunate that all differences between the White People and the Indians should constantly happen in that particular place tho the Indians were constantly travelling to and fro in so many other parts of the Country without having any disputes or Quarrels with any Body —

That as ~~they~~ mentioned they are Sorry for what is past and will avoid all such occasions of difference for the future that he desired they would exert themselves & act upon the principles which they said they would & that they would not take what ~~they~~ He had said as addressed only to the Redstone People who were present with him but that he would tell it to all the other People of the Settlement, as he should to all the other Indians, and for his part he was determined to take all the care in his power to prevent Mischief for the Future —

Mr Schweringham Answered. That he was much pleased at what he had heard and would take all the Care in his power to live peacably with them for the future that he would tell the People of the Settlement what had passed here that he hoped every thing which had happened would be forgot & that they should all live together in a friendly manner hereafter —

The Indians having heard what the People of Redstone & Cheat River said immediately withdrew in private Council by themselves at which they sat all Night & next day till Noon being very much divided in their Councils some being for preserving the peace of the Country and others for revenging the many insults they had received from the

White People at present & for some time past. at length in the second they all came to a Resolution to pass over all that happened and renew their Ancient Chain of Friendship with their Brethren the English and sent for me and went through the Ceremonys usual on such Occasions when the Head Men of the Shawanese got up and spoke as follows being appointed by the several Tribes —

Brother

We have had several conversations wit with you both in Publick & in Private since you came here and we have told you of the Suspicions we have had of your designs against us and that we immagined the great quantity of Rum we see your Traders bring up to debauch our people was done in order to carry your design into execution as you know we can not restrain our people from drinking when you show it to them and though you desire us to fix a Resolution amongst ourselves not to purchase Rum you well know we can never agree to do so Brother you make it and bring it to this Place from this you bring it to our Villages & our Hunting Cabbins & that is the Cause of all those differences that so frequently happen here and all through the Country between your People & ours when our People are Sober there seldom or ever any differen happens between us it is the sole cause of all our Misfortunes & will be the only thing that will draw on a Quarrel between you and us, which we do not wish to see it: is in your Power to Stop so much being brought out into our Country & if your Wise men have that regard for our Wellfare that you tell us they have, they will surely put a stop to so much Rum being brought out to us and we desire you will not sell our Women to sell to us again and we will do every thing in our Power to

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He then pulled out of his Council Bag Sixteen belts of Wampum mostly black and said look at these belts & picking up three in his hand said those belts came from the French telling us and all other Nations to be Strong & Watch the Motions of the English, for that they designed to take all our Country & then destroy us. these belts has passed through all the Nations, They farther tell us that they with the Spaniards will soon come & drive you out of our Country & give it to us again those other Belts are from the Cherokees & Nations to the Sun setting and all around us desiring that We on this River should take care and Watch what you were about for all Nations are jealous of you as well as us and many of them not so well disposed for Peace as Us, We are now become too near Neighbours to Quarrel if we could help it but any other Nation may come into our Country & breed a Quarrel with you which will lead us into it; as was the Case not long ago. and we desire you will do every thing in your Power to preserve the Peace in this Country and we will do the same on our Parts - We have already told you we were to have a great Meeting soon with the Southern & Western Nations & that We expected some of the Six Nations to Council there with the Cherokees that went to their Country last Year. We cannot tell what may be transacted at that Meeting only we want to settle a Peace with all Nations of Indians to the Southward Westward & Northward if any thing else should be settled there and you are here when it is over we will inform you of it

We have now informed you of every thing we have

Sir William Johnston and the Kings great Captain every thing that has happened here since we have met as in a Day or two we will set off to our different Homes to prepare for our own general Meeting —

I then assured them it gave me great pleasure to find by the Resolutions they had come to that they had Acted so wise and sensible a part in renewing their Ancient Friendship with their Brethren the English that they would find it greatly to their own Interest and to the Peace and Tranquility of their Women & Children that I was glad to find they had Acted so prudent a part with respect to the several [illegible] Belts they had received from the French and other Nations & exhorted them to be steady and consult their own Real Interest and not suffer themselves to be led away by evil Minded or ill disposed Nations which might draw them into a difference with us which they might repent all the Days of their lives and assured them I would faithfully report every thing as they desired to his Excellancy General Gage and Sir William Johnston —

Gave a Belt —

The 4th Just as some of the Tribes was setting off a whole Tribe of the Munseys came down the Ohio Men Women & Children being very much alarmed at the Accounts they had received of the Differences that had happened between the Six Nations and the Settlements of Redstone Creek and Cheat River which put a Stop to the Indians going away till they would repeat over to those Munseys the Whole affair & tell how every thing had been Amicably Settled —

Dep.y Ind.n Agent with the
Indians at F: Pitt —
Transmitted in Mr. Croghan's
Letter to Genl. Gage of

Johnson hall Augt 14 1770

Sr William Johnson

(No 14)

R/ 17th October

629

Entd.

N.º 14)

Johnson Hall August 14th. 1770

My Lord

On the 12th. Ulto. I had the honour to write Your Lordship my letter No. 13, previous to my Journey to hold a Congress with the Northern Indians & Deputys from the Southward, from whence I returned some Days ago Attended by so many Tribes & Messengers on the private business of each Nation, that it was not in my power earlier to transmit the proceedings which I now have the honor to Inclose.—

From my last letter Your Lordship has been Enabled to form some Judgement of my Embarrassment arising from the disagreable Nature of the business I had to engage in, on which Acct. I held many Conferences (too long to be inserted) with the leading Men of each Nation upon my Arrival at the place of Congress, to which the Issue & Determination of the Indians as contained in the Papers herewith transmitted must be entirely attributed, they having at length agreed thro the pains I took, and the extraordinary Prudence & good Conduct of some of the Chiefs whose Abilities & Influence were peculiarly exerted upon that Occasion, to stop proceedings against the Southern Indians untill they shall propose Terms of Accomodation, and to decline their intended application for our Assistance & Support in the War, a Circumstance which gave me much

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Hillsborough

much uneasineſs at first, as I found that they came with a Determined resolution to demand it in public, & that not so much from neceſsity as with design thereby to Judge of the Nature of our Freindship, and the regard we paid to former engagements, of which they entertain great doubts, concluding upon this to be a favourable occasion that must finally determine & direct their Conduct towards us, for as their alliances with them are considered both Offensive & Defensive any Evasion or Refusal, from Us would undoubtedly in their present Disposition have so far encreased their Suspicions & resentments as to make our Trade & Frontiers severely feel, the Effects of that spirit of War which now predominates amongst them, at a time when we are very ill calculated to defend the one, or the other, however matters may be misrepresented with regard to our strength or their weakneſs, for whilst they Exist in their present State they are able to make us severely to feel their power without the poſsibility of their sustaining a proportionate loſs even from a Vigourous exertion of our Abilities, So that my Lord disagreable as the Alternative was on which the Iſsue of the proceedings first appeared to depend, I found that a trifling circumstance when Compared with the Prospect of either drawing his Majesty contrary to the principles of humanity to be an Actor in their Quarrels, or to see at least a Temporary end put to the Indian Trade, and the Total ruin of those Settlements which Industry & Peace have added to the Colonies, this, I thought myself bound to prevent as well from humanity as Duty, and I hope the measures I pursued for that purpose will be honoured with his Majesty's approbation as in so doing I carefully avoided discovering what would have been the Resolutions of the Crown, & so conducted it as to make the Iſsue of the Congreſs flow from their own Resolutions on a further and more mature consideration of the buſineſs proposed. —

The Number of the Indians who attended upon this Occasion being   the greatest security owing to the destruction of the Farmers Crops this Year, and the particular Obligations I was under to the Steadineſs & good behaviour of so many leading Men amongst them which I was under the neceſsity of rewarding over and beside the Present, but particularly the distreſs they were in for Cloathing &ca from the total want of Indian Goods have encreased the Expence of this Congreſs much beyond my Inclinations, but as it was unavoidable, I trust all things considered It will be found cheap, Salutary & advantageous to his Majestys Interest, without a due regard to which, I should not have incurred it. ¶ The Rest of the Proceedings which consisted in the Ratification of the Treaty at Fort Stanwix and the Subject of Greivances will require my saying some little upon. As to the first Your Lordship will observe Sufficiently from the publick Conferences, the satisfaction expreſsed by the Indians at the whole of that Treaty with the Resolutions they have taken to render it permanent & acceptable to all their Dependants. — The latter are only the principal Greivances which were spoken in publick, besides which there were many others of an Inferior nature not inserted, as they would have added much to the Bulk of my Transactions & might be deemed unworthy the attention of Government, they nevertheleſs gave me much trouble, & occasioned great delay, which was of most concern to me, as the daily maintenance of such a Number of Indians amounted to a large Sum, to abridge which I gave them my whole time both by Day & Night, & thereby considerably shortened the time of our Sitting. — Your Lordship will find that the principal Greivances complained of in publick regarded the Conduct of our Frontier Inhabitants towards them, & the State of the Indian Trade, the First (as I have repeatedly observed) is what they have but too much reason to complain of, and which they have retaliated in a

very few

in a verry few Instances, tho I know the Contrary is too often represented. I have on former Occasions said so much of the Licentious Spirit of the Inhabitants on the Southern Frontiers, that I need only add that it still continues, & that Malevolence & Disregard to all Treatys is still demonstrated whensoever they fall in ye way of any small Parties, or single Indians, Even since I began this Letter I have received Dispatches from Mr. Croghan My Deputy now at Fort Pitt acquainting me that a Soldier had shot an Indian there, and that another was killed by a Virginian two days after near to Cheat River, The Continuance of which proceedings will render all Transactions with them Abortive, (and altho agreable to their Wishes, some farther Directions to the Governors would give pleasure to the Indians, Yet I fear it is not in the present State of things in the power of our Governments here to put a Stop to these Evils.—

As to the Affairs of Trade, I wish I could say that they had no Cause of Complaint, but the Contrary has been too often manifested of late, Commissioners have been appointed to meet from some of the Colonies, but it is not expected that any Expence will be incurred adequate to the Service, in which case it is much better to do nothing, & that, it is thought will be the Consequence of their Conceding. — [But a still greater and more Alarming Circumstance arose from the wants & Disappointments of the Indians in consequence of the Non Importation Agreement, those with whom they Traded embraced that oportunity of accounting for the Cause of their Wants, as prejudice dictated, & therefore had Just fallen upon a happy mode of Explanation, or they been accustomed to doubt the Veracity of the Traders, It would have had the worst Consequences. These secret Negociations &c. from their Bulk cannot appear on the Face of the Proceedings are the Groundwork of the Whole, & the before mentioned Circumstance proved no small Addition to the Expence, as I was willing to falsify a Representation of so Villainous & Dangerous a Tendency, persuaded that in so doing I should be approved of.] Another Circumstance much complained of as well during the Treaty as since by those by those Indians who accompanyed me to this place, viz. of the great Cargoes of Rum which of late in particular were sent amongst them to their Ruin, as they call it, Many Traders carry little or nothing else because their Profits upon it are so considerable, and whatever Resolutions they enter into, the Indians have not Virtue enough to withstand the Temptation when it comes amongst them, They therefore beg it may not be suffered to come to their Castles or Hunting places, and Indeed the Licentious Abuse of the sale notwithstanding its peculiar Profit, is extremely hurtfull to the Trade in General, from its Effects upon the Indians, besides its giving Encouragement to the Meanest & most profligate Traders to go amongst them, for that neither capacity or knowledge of the Indians or their Language is necessary for the sale of it. but very little remedy can be expected here against the abuse of that Liquor, tho its Effects are daily manifested. Again when Ind.s are Assembled on Publick Affairs, there are always Traders Secreted in the Neighbourhood, & some publickly who not only make them Intoxicated during the time intended for Business, but afterwards get back great part of their Presents in Exchange for Spirituous Liquors of the worst kind, thereby defeating the Intentions of the Crown, and Causing them to Commit many Murders, & other Disorders as well Amongst the Inhabitants as themselves, This is greiviously Complained of by the Indians, but I know of no penal Law at present Subsisting for restraining the sale of that pernicious Liquor, even during publick Business, Which I humbly Conceive Should be recommended to the Immediate Attention of the American Legislatures, as well as some Law for the more effectual Apprehending & punishing Offenders on the Frontiers in a Summary Way. — Another Head of which Your Lordship may find the Indians make mention, is the want of Religious Teachers: on this Subject they greatly enlarged at several Conferences I had with them, & appear to consider it as so great a Neglect in Government that [illegible] that I Judged it most adviseable to give them better hopes & thereby put an End to their Murmurings, The Majority of Indians tis true, do not as yet request it, but even they consider our neglecting to gratify those that are so disposed, as a farther Instance of our Indifference & Disregard. — I have, I beleive formerly mentioned this Subject on application from some of the Tribes, it is now become a Matter of more serious Concern from the earnestness with which the Whole were about to second ye desire of a few, and when so fair an opertunity is afforded, I apprehend it is unnecessary to enlarge on the advantage it must be of to the State to Secure those who have been already instructed in its Religion, and to render diffusive those Religious & Civil, Sentiments that are best Calculated for its Advantage & Support. — The Mohawks have had Missionaries of the Church of England amongst them from the Reign of Queen Anne till within these few Years, they are now without any and from the Scarcity of Clergymen, or some other Cause the Society Cannot procure them on the Sallary which their Small Funds have Limitted them to, Whilst at the same time the Indians find that their Brothers in Canada who were our Enemies are regularly Supplied, & one lately appointed in Nova Scotia at the Expence of Government as tis said. I therefore cannot help at the Intreaty of the Indians humbly recommending to his Majestys Consideration the Affording some Allowance for the Mohawk Mission which has always been under the Immediate protection of the Crown, Declaring it as my beleif that if any farther provision could be made to employ others in so good a Work, it would encrease their Reverence for the Crown, & their Attachment to the British Interest. —

The other Matters spoken upon during the Treaty (tho they occupied a good part of my time then, and Occasioned several Hundred Indians to follow me Home) are such as I trust may be Settled without any trouble to Government. — The Messages which the Indians have resolved upon to send to the South & Westward, Supported by the Steps I shall take, will I hope have weight, & prove serviceable in a high Degree, and in Order to be armed against any thing that may in another Quarter

in another Quarter threaten to disturb the publick tranquility,
I have taken measures to be informed as early as poſsible with
the proceedings & Iſsues of the Congreſs, which they are about this
time to hold at the great Plains of Scioto near the Ohio, where some
are endeavouring to form Confederacys for very bad purposes,
Secretly Countenanced & Supported by French Traders, Renegadoes
& all those Indians who have not hitherto been heartily attached
to the English, but with wonderfull Art have for a time past
endeavoured to shake the fidelity of the Six Nations, thro' the
means of some of the Seneca Towns who are most diſsatisfied
with our Conduct. —— I have in the Course of this Letter
touched upon the principal Subjects of both the Publick & private
Conferences at the late Congreſs, this is as much as I could do
from the Variety of Matters that occur upon such Occasions,
which however trivial in appearance, demand my particular Attention
Upon the Whole I must observe that the Indians are at present in a
State of uncertainty as to what Course they shall take, the Measures
lately taken have strengthened the fidelity of our Friends & afforded
a Temporary Satisfaction to others, but it is on the continuance
of them, & the Adoption of the wisest measures for their Redreſs
& Satisfaction we must solely rely for the securing that Fidelity,
which tho comparatively of little moment, when weighed with
the great Objects of Concern wherein the Crown is so deeply Interested
is nevertheleſs in a Relative View, from a Variety of peculiar
Circumstances worthy the most serious Consideration, & therefore I
most Humbly recommend the Heads herein treated of, as what
may be productive of the most happy Effects to this Country. —
If by any means they can be carried into Execution under ye Auspices
of the Crown, To promote which my Lord my whole Influence
& the small remainder of my Health shall be most willingly
Devoted. I hope to be honoured with Your Lordships Commands on
the foregoing Subjects, and am with the highest respect

My Lord, Your Lordships
most Devoted & Most
Humble Servant
W Johnson.

Sir William Johnson to the Earl of Hillsborough.

[Plantations General (S. P. O.) No. 256.]

N° 14.

Johnson Hall. 14. August. 1770.

My Lord.

On the 12 ult^{o} I had the honour to write Your Lord^{p} my letter N° 13. previous to my journey to hold a Congress with the Northern Indians and Deputys from the Southward, from whence I returned some days ago attended by so many Tribes and Messengers on the private business of each nation, that it was not in my power earlier to transmit the proceedings which I now have the honour to inclose.

From my last letter, your Lord^{p} has been enabled to form some judgement of my embarrassment arising from the disagreable nature of the business I had to engage in, on which account I held many Conferences (too long to be inserted) with the leading men of each Nation, upon my arrival at the place of Congress, to which the issue and determination of the Indians as contained in the papers herewith transmitted must be entirely attributed; they having at length agreed thro' the pains I took, and the extraordinary prudence and good conduct of some of the Chiefs, whose abilities and influence were peculiarly exerted upon that occasion, to stop proceedings against the Southern Indians, until they shall propose terms of accommodation, and to decline their intended application for our assistance & support in the war, a circumstance which gave me much uneasiness at first, as I found that they came with a determined resolution to demand it in public, and that not so much from necessity as with design thereby to judge of the nature of our friendship, and the regard we paid to former engagements, of which they entertain great doubts; concluding upon this to be a favourable occasion that must finally determine & direct their conduct towards us, for as strict alliances with them are considered both offensive & defensive any evasion or refusal from us would undoubtedly in their present disposition have so far encreased their suspicions and resentment as to make our Trade and Frontiers feel the effects of that spirit of War, which now predominates amongst them, at a time when we are very ill calculated to defend the one or the other, however matters may be misrepresented with regard to our strength or their weakness, for whilst they exist in their present state, they are able to make us severely to feel their power without the possibility of their sustaining a proportionate loss even from a vigorous exertion of our abilities, so that, My Lord, disagreable as the alternative was on which the issue of the proceedings first appeared to depend, I found that a trifling circumstance when compared with the prospect of either drawing his Maj^{ty} contrary to the principles of humanity to be an Actor in their quarrels, or to see at least a temporary end put to the Indian Trade, and the total ruin of those settlements which industry and peace have added to the Colonies; this, I thought myself bound to prevent as well from humanity as duty, and I hope the measures I pursued for that purpose will be honoured with his Maj$^{ty's}$ approbation, as in so doing I carefully avoided discovering what would have been the resolutions of the Crown, and so conducted it as to make the issue of the Congress flow from their own resolutions on a farther and more mature consideration of the business proposed.

The number of the Indians who attended upon this occasion being   the great scarcity owing to the destruction of the Farmers' crops this year, and the particular obligations I was under, to the steadiness and good behaviour of so many leading Men amongst them, which I was under the necessity of rewarding over & beside the present, but particularly the distress they were in for cloathing ettc, from the total want of Indian goods, have encreased the expence of this Congress much beyond my inclinations, but as it was unavoidable, I trust all things considered, it will be found cheap, salutary and advantagious to His Maj^{tys} interests, without a due regard to which I should not have incurred it.

The rest of the proceedings which consisted in the Ratification of the Treaty at Fort Stanwix and the subject of grievances, will require my saying some little upon. As to the first, your Lord^{p} will observe sufficiently from the public conferences, the satisfaction expressed by the Ind^{ns} at the whole of that Treaty with the resolutions they have taken to render it permanent and acceptable to all their dependants. The latter are only the principal grievances which were spoken in public, besides which there were many others of an inferiour nature not inserted, as they would have added much to the bulk of my transactions and might be deemed unworthy the attention of Government, they nevertheless gave me much trouble and occasioned great delay, which was of most concern to me, as the daily maintenance of such a number of Indians amounted to a large sum, to abridge which I gave them my whole time both by day and night & thereby considerably shortened the time of our sitting. Your Lord^{p} will find that the principal grievances complained of in public regarded the conduct of our Frontier inhabitants towards them, and the state of the Indian Trade; the first (as I have repeatedly observed) is what they have but too much reason to complain of, and which they have retaliated in a very few instances, tho' I know the contrary is too often represented, I have on former occasions said so much of the Licentious spirit of the Inhabitants, on the southern Frontiers, that I need only add, that it still continues, and that[1] malevolence and disregard to all Treatys is still demonstrated whensoever they fall in the way of any small parties, or single Indians. Even since I begun this letter I have received Dispatches from M^{r} Croghan[2] my Deputy now at Fort Pitt acquainting me that a Soldier had shot an Indian there, and that another was killed by a Virginian two days after near to Chate River; the continuance of which proceedings will render all transactions with them abortive, and altho' agreable to their wishes, some further directions to the Governors would give pleasure to the Indians; yet I fear it is not in the present state of things in the power of our governments here to put a stop to these evils.

As to the affairs of Trade, I wish I could say that they had no cause of complaint, but the contrary has been too often manifested of late; Commiss^{rs} have been appointed to meet from some of the Colonies, but it is not expected that any expence will be incurred adequate to the service, in which case it is much better to do nothing, and that, it is thought will be the consequence of their meeting. But a still greater and more alarming circumstance arose from the wants and disappointments of the Indians, in consequence of the non-importation agreements; these with whom they Traded embraced that opportunity of accounting for the cause of their wants, as prejudice dictated, and therefore had just fallen[3] upon a happy mode of explanation, or they been accustomed to doubt the veracity of the Traders, it would have had the worst consequences. These secret negociations which from their Bulk cannot appear on the face of the proceedings are the ground work of the whole, and the before mentioned circumstance proved no small addition to the expence, as I was willing to falsify a representation of so villanous and dangerous a tendency, persuaded that in so doing I should be approved of.

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[1] their. *Johnson Manuscripts.*

[2] *Supra,* note, VII., 982.

[3] had I not fallen. *Johnson Manuscripts.* — ED.

Another circumstance much complained of as well during the Treaty, as since by those Indians who accompanied me to this place, is: of the great cargoes of Rum, which (of late in particular) are sent amongst them to their ruin as they call it; many Traders carry little or nothing else, because their profits upon it are so considerable, and whatever resolutions they enter into, the Indians have not virtue enough to withstand the temptation when it comes amongst them. They therefore beg it may not be suffered to come to their Castles or hunting places, and indeed the licentious abuse of the sale notwithstanding its peculiar profit, is extremely hurtful to the Trade in general from its effects upon the Indians, besides its giving encouragement to the meanest and most profligate Traders to go amongst them; in that, neither capacity or knowledge of the Indians, or their language is necessary for the sale of it. But very little remedy can be expected here against the abuse of that liquor, tho' its effects are daily manifested. Again, when Indians are assembled on public affairs, there are always Traders secreted in the neighbourhood, and some publicly who not only make them intoxicated during the time intended for business, but afterwards get back great part of their presents in exchange for spirituous liquors of the worst kind, thereby defeating the intentions of the Crown, and causing them to commit many murders, & other disorders, as well amongst the Inhabitants as themselves. This is grievously complained of by the Indians, but I know of no penal Law at present subsisting for restraining the sale of that pernicious Liquor, even during public business, which I humbly conceive should be recommended to the immediate attention of the American Legislatures, as well as some Law for the more effectual apprehending and punishing offenders on the Frontiers in a summary way. Another head of which your Lord^{p} may find the Indians make mention, is the want of Religious teachers. On this subject they greatly enlarged at several conferences I had with them, and appear to consider it as so great a neglect in Government that I judged it most adviseable to give them better hopes and thereby put an end to their murmuring. The Majority of Indians, 'tis true, do not as yet request it, but even *they*, consider our neglecting to gratify those that are so disposed, as a further instance of our indifference and disregard. I have, I believe formerly mentioned this subject on application from some of the Tribes, it is now become a matter of more serious concern from the earnestness with which the whole were about to second the desire of a few, and when so fair an opportunity is afforded, I apprehend it is unnecessary to enlarge on the advantage it must be of to the state, to secure those, who have been already instructed in its Religion, and to render diffusive those Religious and civil sentiments that are best calculated for its advantage and support. The Mohawks have had Missionaries of the Church of England amongst them, from the Reign of Queen Anne till within these few years, they are now without any and from the scarcity of Clergymen, or some other cause, the Society cannot procure them on the Salary, wh^{ch} their small funds have limited them to, whilst at the same time, the Indians find, that their Brothers in Canada, who were our Enemies, are regularly supplied, and one lately appointed in Nova Scotia at the expence of Government as 'tis said, I therefore cannot help at the intreaty of the Indians, humbly recommending to His Maj^{tys} consideration, the affording some allowance for the Mohawk Mission, which has always been under the immediate protection of the Crown, declaring it as my belief, that if any further provision could be made to employ others in so good a work, it would encrease their reverence for the Crown, and their attachment to the British Interest. The other matters spoken upon during the Treaty (tho' they occupied a good part of my time then, and occasioned several hundred Indians to follow me home) are such as I trust may be settled without any trouble to Government. The Messages, which the Indians have resolved upon to send to the South and Westward, supported by the steps I shall take, will I hope have weight, and prove serviceable in a high degree, and in order to be armed against any thing that may in another quarter threaten to disturb the public tranquility, I have taken measures to be informed as early as possible with the proceedings & issues of the Congress, which they are about this time to hold at the great plains of *Sioto* near the Ohio, where some are endeavouring to form Confederacys for very bad purposes, secretly countenanced and supported by French Traders, Renegadoes and all those Indians, who have not hitherto been heartily attached to the English, but with wonderfull art, have for a time past endeavoured to shake the fidelity of the Six Nations, thro' the means of some of the Seneca Towns, who are most dissatisfied with our conduct.—I have in the course of this letter touched upon the principal subjects of both, the public and private conferences at the late Congress, this, is as much as I could do from the variety of matters that occur upon such occasions, which, however trivial in appearance, demand my particular attention. Upon the whole I must observe that the Indians are at present in a state of uncertainty as to what course they shall take; the measures lately taken have strengthened the fidelity of our friends and afforded a temporary satisfaction to others, but it is on the continuance of them and the adoption of the wisest measures for their redress and satisfaction we must solely rely for the securing their fidelity, which tho' comparatively of little moment, when weighed with the great objects of concern, wherein the Crown is so deeply interested, is nevertheless in a relative view, from a variety of peculiar circumstances worthy the most serious consideration, and therefore I most humbly recommend the heads herein stated[1] of, as what may be productive of the most happy effects to this Country. If by any means they can be carried into execution under the auspices of the Crown, to promote which, My Lord, my whole influence & the small remainder of my health, shall be most willingly devoted. I hope to be honoured with your Lordp's commands on the foregoing subjects, and am with the highest respect My Lord,

Your Lordship's most devoted and
most humble servant.

Johnson Hall. 14. August. 1770. Wm. JOHNSON.

Proceedings of Sir William Johnson with the Indians.

[Plantations General (S. P. O.) CCLVI.]

Proceedings at a Treaty with the Six Nations, the Indians of Canada, the several Dependant Tribes, and the Deputies from the Cherokee Nation, held at the upper settlements, near the German Flatts in July 1770, by Sir William Johnson Baronet.

On Sunday the 15th of July 1770. Sir William Johnson, accompanied by Colonel Daniel Claus, Col: Guy Johnson Dep: Agents, Richard Shuckburgh Esquire Secretary for Indian Affairs, & several other Gentlemen from the neigbouring settlements, set out from Johnson Hall, and on Monday the 16th arrived at the place for holding the Treaty, where were assembled about 1600 Indians, and many more yet expected. At 2. P. M. the Speaker of the Six Nations, came to Sir William's Quarter to be informed, when they should make their first visit, and whether applying to Major General Gage who will have Orders to defray what Expence shall be absolutely necessary on this occasion.

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[1] treated. *Johnson Manuscripts.* — ED.

It is to be hoped that it will not be long before those Colonies, whose security depends upon the good Will and Affection of the Savages, will see the necessity of such regulations as will be effectual to prevent those abuses which at present give so much Discontent to them. In the mean time you will not fail to exert every Influence in your Power to prevent these Abuses from having such an operation upon the Minds of the Indians, as to disturb that Tranquillity which is so essential to their true Interests.

I am with great Regard Sir,
Your Most Obedient
Humble servant
HILLSBOROUGH.

SIR Wm. JOHNSON TO LORD HILLSBOROUGH.

Johnson hall July 12th 1770.

My Lord

Since I wrote your Lordship on the 10th of feby last (No 12) I have been honored with your Lordships Letter No 12 inclosing his Majestys Speech for which I offer my most humble thanks, as also your Letter No 13 in answer to my Dispatch concerning the proposed Congress, on which Subject I am Extremely happy to find that his Majesty approves of the alternative which I thought was the only one that under the circumstances I have had the honor to represent could be adopted with safety to the public.

As I was so fortunate as to foresee the sense of Government on this embarrassing Occasion, I do assure your Lordship that I took infinite pains, to avoid the Congress, but I find that It cannot be either set aside, or postponed with safety, and above 500 of the Indians being already come to the place of rendezvous I purpose to set out to morrow to meet them, Judging that about the time of my Arrival there which is 50 miles from hence the Whole will be assembled, and I am very sorry to hear that There will be a Considerable number of them, because there is a Great Scarcity of all provisions at present throughout these parts, the Crops being almost totally destroyed by Caterpillars, & in the Indian Country many Corn fields are entirely ruined by them. After great trouble & difficulty I have at length got out of the hands of the Committee of non Importers at N York a Cargoe of Indian Goods without which I don't know how I should have gone to the Congress for whatever is the occasion, we cannot meet those people without some proofs of his Majestys Esteem more especially at some periods as now when Indn Goods are so scarce that sevl parties have gone thro' all the stores & shops within 100 ms witht being able to procure one Dozn of blankts it has been industriously propagated amst them by some Very Weak people that the Scarcity is occasioned by the King who has ordered that no goods shall be sent over to them This very dangerous report is so universal amongst them that I have been told of it in very Warm terms by above 100 Indians within the course of the present Week, many of them have brought down their peltry & returned almost naked, & full of resentment, The effects of which I am so sensible of that I thought it my Duty to undeceive them in the best manner I could on a point of such delicacy when the occasion of their present Wants & disappointments cannot be transferred from one, to another, without some danger to the publick.

You see my Lord Some of the difficulties in which my station involves me, but I have firmness enough to Support me under greater, when his Majestys Interest demands it of me and the Confidence which the Indians repose in me will I trust enable me to clear up these disagreable matters so as they may not have any ill consequences to which End the presents will greatly contribute by removing their apprehensions till more favorable times shall set all matters right, I purpose at the Congress when Agreable to his Majestys Orders I proceed to the Ratification of the Fort Stanwix treaty to convince them that he has no desire for the Lands they Ceded to the southward of the Kanhawa River, and to explain these points in a Way that I hope will be Satisfactory to the few of their Insatiable Depend^{ts} Who have pretended to be discontented at the Extent of a Cession so fully Agreed to in the largest Assembly that was ever yet held of the true & real Proprietors, and as I hear from the Southward that the Cherokees deny that their Depys, have orders to draw the Northern nations into so Extensive a War as has been represented to me I shall study to avail myself of it, in altering their purposes, but should it appear that the Authority of these Depys is indisputable & that the Northern Ind^{s} cannot be diverted from their purposes With any safety to the publick, I shall in that case make it as much their own affair, as possible, and endeavor to act in the manner most agreable to his Majestys Inclinations as Expressed in your Lordships Letter to me. I foresee much trouble and difficultys in the Course of the intended Congress, as well from the discontent shewn for so long a time by many of the Indians, & The very disagreable report, before ment^{d} as from the want of any Appointments for the Regulation of Trade & the little prospect there is, of its ever being duly attended to but on all these matters I shall endeavor to give them the utmost satisfaction in my power, to prevent their operating to any disagreable purposes.— And his Majesty may be assured that on this or any other occasion I shall never presume to recommend or incurr any Expense, unless I am convinced from Experience, of its necessity, and in that case I shall conduct myself with the strictest Honor, & Integrity, and with a Frugality proportioned to the Exigency, and importance of the Service.

As I hope Within a few Weeks to give your Lordship an acc^{t} of the result of my Transactions, I have only at present to add that I am with all Imaginable respect,

My Lord &c.

The Rt honble
The Earl of Hillsborough,

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

Johnson Hall August 14th 1770.

MY LORD

On the 12th ult^{o} I had the honor to write your Lordship my Letter N^{o} (13,) previous to my Journey to hold a Congress with the Northern Indians & Depy^{s} from the southward, from whence I returned some days ago, attended by so many Tribes, and Messengers on the private business of each Nation, that it was not in my power earlier to transmit the proceedings which I now have the honor to Inclose.

From My last Letter your Lordship has been enabled to form some Judgment of my Embarrassment, arising from the disagreable nature of the business I had to engage in, on which account I held many Conferrences, (too long to be inserted) with the Leading men of each Nation upon my Arrival at the place of Congress, to which the Issue & Determination of the Indians as contained in the papers herewith Transmitted must be entirely attributed, They having at length agreed thro' the pains I took and the extraordinary prudence & good Conduct of some of the Chiefs whose abilities & Influence were peculiarly Exerted upon that occasion, To Stop proceedings against the Southern Indians, until they shall propose terms of accomodation & to decline their intended Application for our Assistance &

Support in the War a Circumstance which gave me much uneasiness at first as I found that they came with a determined resolution to demand it in publick, and that not so much from necessity as with design thereby to Judge of the nature of our Friendship, and the regard we paid to former Engagements, of which they entertain great doubts, Concluding upon this to be a favorable occasion that must finally determine, & direct their Conduct towards us for as Strict Alliances with them are Considered both Offensive & Deffencive Any Evasion or refusal from us would undoubtedly in their present disposition have so far encreased their Suspicions & Resentment as to make our Trade & frontiers Severely feel the effects of that Spirit of War which now predominates amongst them, At a time when we are very ill Calculated to defend the one, or the other, howsoever matters may be misrepresented with regard to our Strength or their Weakness for whilst they Exist in their present State they are able to make us Severely to feel their power without the possibility of their Sustaining a proportionate Loss even from a Vigorous Exertion of our Abilities, So that My Lord disagreeable as was the Alternative on which the issue of the proceedings first Appeared to depend, I found that a trifling Circumstance when compared with the prospect of either drawing his Majesty contrary to the principles of humanity to be an Actor in their Quarrells, or to see at least a Temporary end put to the Ind^n Trade, and the Total ruin of those Settlements which Industry & peace have added to the Colonies, this I thought myself bound to prevent as well from humanity as duty and I hope the measures I pursued for that purpose will be honored with his Majestys Approbation, as In so doing I carefully avoided discovering what would have been the resolutions of the Crown, & so Conducted it as to make the Issue of the Congress flow from their own resolutions, on a farther & more mature consideration of the business proposed.

The Number of the Ind^s. who attended upon this occasion being , the great scarcity owing to the destruction of the farmers crops this year, and the particular obligations, I was under to the steadyness & good behavior of so many Leading Men amongst them which I was under the necessity of rewarding over & beside the present, but particularly the distress they were in for cloaths, from the total want of Ind^n. Goods, have encreased the Expence of this Congress much beyond my Inclinations, but as it was unavoidable, I trust all things considered, It will be found cheap, salutary & advantagious to his Majestys Interest, without a due regard to which I should not have incurred it.

The rest of the proceedings which consisted in the Ratification of the Treaty at Fort Stanwix, and the subject of Grievances will require my saying some little upon. As to the first, your Lordship will observe sufficiently from the publick conferences, the satisfaction Expressed by the Ind^s. at the whole of that Treaty with the resolutions they have taken to render it permanent & acceptable to all their Dependants. The latter are only the principal Grievances which were spoken in publick, besides which there were many others of an Inferior Nature not inserted, as they would have added much to the bulk of my Transactions & might be deemed unworthy the attention of Government,—they nevertheless gave me much Trouble, & occasioned great delay, which was of most concern to me, as the daily maintenance of such a number of Ind^s. amounted to a large sum, to abridge which I gave them my whole time both by Day & Night, & thereby considerably shortened the Time of our Setting.

Your Lordship will find that the principal Grievances complained of in publick regarded the conduct of our frontier Inhabitants towards them, & the state of the Ind^n. Trade, The first (as I have repeatedly observed) is what they have but too much reason to Complain of & which they have retaliated in a very few Instances, Tho' I know the contrary is too often represented. I have on former occasions said so much of the Licentious Spirit of the Inhabitants on the Southern Frontiers, that I need only add that it still continues, & their malevolence & disregard to all Treatys is still Demonstrated, whensoever they fall in the way of any small Partys, or single Ind^s. Even since I began this Letter I have rec^d dispatches from M^r. Croghan at Fort Pitt acquainting me that a soldier had shot an Indian there & that another was killed by a Virginian two days after near to that River. The continuance of which proceedings will render all Transactions with them abortive, and altho' agreable to their Wishes some farther directions to the Govrs. would give pleasure to the Inds. Yet I fear it is not in the present state of things in the power of our Governments here to put a stop to these Evils.

As to the Affairs of Trade I wish I could say that they had no cause of Complaint, but the contrary has been too often manifested of late. Commissioners are indeed appointed to meet from some of the Colonies, but it is not Expected that an Expence will be incurred adequate to the Service, in which case it is much better to do nothing, But a still greater & more alarming circumstance arose from the wants & disappointmt of the Inds. in consequence of the non importation Agreemts. Those with whom they Traded embraced that opportunity of accounting for the cause of their wants, as prejudice dictated, & therefore had I not fallen upon a happy mode of Explanation, or they been accustomed to doubt the Veracity of the Traders, It would have had the Worst Consequences. These Secret Negotiations which from their bulk cannot appear on the face of the proceedings are the Ground Work of the Whole, & the beforementd. Circumstance proved no small addition to the Expence, as I was Willing to falsify a representation of so dangerous a Tendency persuaded that in so doing it should be approved of.— Another Circumstance much complained of as well during the Treaty, as since by those Indians who accompanied me to this place is of the great Cargoes of Rum wch (of late in particular) are sent amst them to their ruin, as they call it, Many Traders carry little or nothing else because their profits upon it are so Considerable, and whatever resolutions they enter into, the Inds. have not Virtue enough to withstand the Temptation when it comes amst them, They therefore beg it may not be suffered to come to their Castles, or hunts places, & indeed the Licentious abuse of the sale notwithstanding its peculiar profit, is Extremely hurtfull to the Trade in Genl. from its effects upon the Inds. besides its giving Encouragement to the meanest & most profligate Traders to go amongst them, in that neither capacity or knowledge of the Inds. or their Language is necessary for the sale of it, but very little remedy can be Expected here agt. the abuse of that Liquor, tho' its effects are daily manifested —Again, whenever Inds. are assembled on publick affairs, there are always Traders secreted in the neighbourhood & some publickly who not only make them intoxicated during the Time intended for business, but afterwds. get back great part of their presents in Exchange for Spirituous Liquors, thereby defeats the Intentions of the Crown, & causing them to commit many disorders as well amst the Inhabitants as themselves This is Grievously complained of by the Inds. but I know of no final Law at present subsisting for restrains the sale of that pernicious Liquor even during publick business, which I humbly conceive should be recommended to the immediate attention of the American Legislatures, As well as some Law for the more effectual apprehends & punishing offenders on the frontiers in a summary way.—

Another Head of which your Lordship may find the Inds. make mention, is their want of Religious Teachers; on this subject they greatly enlarged, at sevl. Conferences I had with them & appear to consider it as so great a neglect in Govt. that I judged it most advisable to give them better hopes, & thereby put an end to their murmuring, The majority of Inds. tis true, do not as yet request it, but even they consider our neglecting to Gratify those that are so disposed, as a farther instance of our indifference & disregard. I have formerly mentioned this subject on applications from some of the Tribes, It is now become a matter of more serious concern from the earnestness with which the whole were about to second the desire of a few, and when so fair an opportunity is afforded, I apprehend it is unnecessary to enlarge on the advantage it must be of to the State to secure those who have been already instructed in its Religion, and to render diffusive those Religious & Civil Sentiments, that are best calculated for its advantage & support. The Mohocks have had Missionaries of the Church of England amongst them from the Reign of Queen Anne till within these few years, they are now without any, & from the scarcity of Clergymen or some other cause, the Society cannot procure them on the Sallary which their small funds have limitted them to, whilst at the same time the Inds. find that their Brothers in Canada &ca, who were our Enemies, are regularly supplied, & one lately appointed in Nova Scotia at the Expence of Government as tis said, I therefore cannot help at the Intreaty of the Inds. humbly recommends to his Majestys consideration, the affords some allowance for the Mohock Mission which has always been under the imediate protection of the Crown, declaring it as my belief that if any farther provision could be made to employ others in so good a work it would increase their reverence for the Crown, and their attachment to the British Interest.

The other matters spoken upon during the Treaty (tho' they occupied a good part of my time then, & occasioned sevl. hundred Inds. to follow me home,) are such as I trust may be Settled without any Trouble to Govt. The Messages which the Inds. have resolved upon to send to the South & Westward, supported by the Steps I shall take will I hope have weight & prove Serviceable in a high degree, and in order to be armed against any thing that may in another Quarter threaten to disturb the publick Tranquility, I have taken measures to be informed as early as possible with the proceeds. & Issues of the Congress, which they are about this time to hold at the Great plains of Sciota near the Ohio, where some are endeavoring to form Confederacys, for very bad purposes, Secretly countenanced & Supported by French Traders, Renegadoes, & all those Inds. who have not hitherto been Seriously attached to the English, but with wonderfull Art have for a time past endeavored to Shake the fidelity of the Six Nations, thro' the means of some of the Seneca Towns that are most dissatisfied with our Conduct

I have in the Course of this Letter touched upon the principal Subjects of both the public & private Conferences at the late Congress this is as much as I could do from the Variety of matters that occur upon such occasions which however trivial in Appearance demand my particular attention, upon the Whole I must observe that the Indians are at present in a state of uncertainty as to what course they shall take, The Measures lately taken have Strengthened the fidelity of our Friends, and afforded a temporary Satisfaction to others, but it is on the Continuance of them and the Adoption of the Wisest measures for their redress & Satisfaction we must solely rely for the Securing their fidelity; which tho Comparatively of little moment when weighed with the great Objects of Concern wherein the Crown is so deeply interested, is nevertheless in a relative View, from a Variety of peculiar Circumstances worthy the most serious Consideration, and therefore I most humbly recommend the heads herein treated of, as what may be productive of the most happy Effects to this Country, If by any means they can be carried into Execution under the Auspices of the Crown. To promote which My Lord my Whole Influence & the Small remainder of my health shall be most Willingly devoted.

I hope to be honored wth. your Lordships Comds on the foregoing subjects, & am with the highest respect,

My Lord, Your Lordship's
most Devoted & most humble Servt.

To the Earl of Hills Burgh.
14 Aug. 1770.

Aug 14. 70

Extract of a Letter from Sir William Johnson to the E. of Hillsborough dated Johnson Hall August 14th 1770.

Extract of a Letter from Sir William Johnson to the Earl of Hillsborough dated Johnson Hall August 14th 1770.

The rest of the proceedings which consisted in the Ratification of the Treaty at Fort Stanwix, & the Subject of Grievances will require my saying some little upon. As to the first your Lordship will observe sufficiently from the public Conferences, the Satisfaction expreſsed by the Indians at the whole of that Treaty with the Resolutions they have taken to render it permanent & acceptable to all their Dependents. The latter are only the principal Grievances which were spoken in public, besides which there were many others of an inferior nature not inserted, as they would have added much to the Bulk of my Transactions, & might be deemed unworthy the Attention of Govt. they neverthleſs gave me much Trouble & occasioned great Delay which was of most concern to me, as the daily Maintenance of such a number of Indians amounted to a large Sum, to abridge which I gave them my whole time, both by Day & Night, & thereby considerably shortened the time of

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of the Inhabitants on the Southern
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it still [illegible]es, & their malevole
& disrega [illegible] Treaties are still
demonstrated, whensoever they fall
in the Way of any small parties, or
single Indians, even since I began
this Letter, I have received Dispatches
from Mr Croghan my Deputy now at
Fort Pitt acquainting me that a
Soldier had shot an Indian there, &
that another was killed by a Virginia
two days after near to Cheat River, the
continuance of which proceedings
will render all Transactions with them
abortive.

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Compla

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Proceedings at a Treaty with the Six Nations, the Indians of Canada, the several Dependant Tribes, and the Deputies from the Cherokee Nation, held at the upper Settlements, near the German Flatts in July 1770 by Sir William Johnson Baronet. —

On Sunday the 15th of July 1770 Sir William Johnson, Accompanied by Colonel Daniel Claus, Colonel Guy Johnson Depy Agents, Richard Shuckburgh Esquire Secretary for Indian Affairs, and several other Gentn from the Neighbouring Settlements, Set out from Johnson Hall, and on Monday the 16th, Arrived at the Place for holding the Treaty, where were Assembled, about 1600 Indians, and many more yet Expected. — At 2 P. M the Speaker of the Six Nations, came to Sir William's Quarters to be Informed when they should make their first Visit, and whether they should come in a Body, or each Nation Seperately; to which Sir William Answered, that, as the House in which he Resided, was too small to Admit them, he would Cause a large Arbour to be made in the Field, where he would receive them all the next Morning. — At 6 P. M 80 Indians arrived from Onoghquagey, and other Villages on the Branch of Susquahanna, the Chiefs of whom waited on Sir William, who after the usual Ceremony, ordered them Provisions, and sent them to their Quarters. — In the Evening 16 Algonkins &c arrived, who informed Sir William, that they had left seven Canoes of Chipaweights near Oswego, on their way to the Congreſs.

Tuesday the 17th.

The Bunt Chief of Onondaga, with the Speaker of that Nation, waited on Sir William early in the Morning and acquainted him, that their Head Warrior Diaquanda had refused to Attend to Buſineſs, & Encamped with another Nation, which gave them all Concern, & would greatly interrupt their Proceedings; but as he was Sir William's particular friend, and much under his Influence, hoped, that he would make use of it to persuade him to Return to them. —

Sir William gave them a Gracious Answer, and aſsured them, that he would use his Influence to that End.

Sir William accordingly sent for Diaquanda, & after some Discourse, at length persuaded him to Join, and Aſsist his Nation in Council, for which he Received their sincere thanks. —

The Indians not being all Aſsembled as yet, Sir William Received Visits from the Chiefs, and held Several Private Meetings with the Principal men of each Nation, from whom he received much usefull, and Interesting Information, respecting the Sentiments and present Disposition of the Indians. ——

In the Evening the old Sachems of Onoghquagey came to Sir William's Quarters to acquaint him of Thomas King's (one of their Chiefs) having some days ago unfortunately killed a Young Tuscarora, for which he was so much Concerned, that he determined to Return the next Day to the Village, where he Committed the Murder, and Submit himself to the Will of the Friends of the deceased. — Sir William told them, that he was extremely Sorry for the death of their friend, desiring them to tell Thomas King, that he would talk with him on that Subject, and Contribute his Endeavors, that the Affair might be amicably Accomodated. —

At a Congreſs held at the German Flatts
On Wednesday July the 18th 1770. —

Present,

The Honoble Sir William Johnson Bart — Super-Intendant
Col. Daniel Claus } (Depy Agents —
Col. Guy Johnson }
Richard Shuckburgh Esqr — Secy for Indian Affairs
John Butler Esquire —— Interpr
Captn Norman McLeod — of the late 80th Regimt
Capt Michael Byrne —
Hanjst Harkemer Esqr —— And Several other Gentn and Inhabitants from the Settlements, with the following Nations of Indians —

Six Nations —

Six Nations.

Mohawks of the three Villages	209	Oneidas	232
Onondagas	250	Cayugas	269
Senecas	354	Tuscaroras	132

Ganaghsaragues	115	their Depend.ts
Onoghquageys	124	
Nanticoks and Conoys	193	
Tuteloes	78	

From Canada.

Cagnawageys & the Ind.s of S.t Regis	78	Ganagsadagys	11
Algonkins	8	Hurons of Lorell	2
Abenaquis S.t Francis	2	Nipisinks	7
		River Indians	2
		Deputies from Cherokee Nat.n	7

An Ottowa Chief called Okaysowess from Michilimacnac.

All these were Joined by 26 Missages, and 230 Ind.s of the Several Nations, during the Treaty am.tg in the whole to 2320 Ind.s

Being all Seated, Saghteghroana a Chief of S.t Regis stood up, and said, that agreeable to the Summons they had Received, there were now Aſsembled the Chiefs of the Seven Nations of Canada in Order to Attend the Congreſs. — then Returned the String of Invitation. —

Then Conoquieson a Chief of Oneida Stood up on behalf of the Six Nations, and said. —

Brother Warraghiyagey. —

We are very happy to see you here this day at our particular Request. — You know, Brother, that, when the Deputies who are now here from the Cherokee Nation, first came to our Fire place at Onondaga to Request on behalf of their Nation, that we Should join them in Making War upon the troublesome People who were their Enemies and from whom our selves have Received Several Insults, As it was an Affair of Importance which required much Deliberation, tho' Inclined to agree to their Desires, yet as none of our Confederacy from Canada were present, And as we had given you Aſsurances that we Should not Enter into any Engagements without your Concurrence, and Approbation, We thought it most fitting to Send Deputies to you requesting you would Aſsemble the Whole of our Confederacy, that we might Confer together thereon. — Brother, We are very thankful that you have Complied with our Request, as People in Alliance should do, and we are now to Acquaint you, that, agreeable to the Belts & Meſsages sent amongst us, we are all now met here from Ohio to Canada, to a considerable Number; And I do now on behalf of all those Nations here Aſsembled, take you by the hand, sincerely Wellcoming you to this place, where we have kindled up a fire & where I hope the Buſineſs we meet upon, will go on to our mutual Satisfaction. ———

Gave — three Strings. —

Then after Acquainting the Indians of the Death of an Oneida Child since they left their Village, he proceeded

Brother. — Agreeable to the antient Custom established by our wise

Forefathers, that whenever we meet, we should mutually Condole each Other for our Loſses, and as we Suppose that you have doubtleſs Sustained Some since our last Interview, we do now agreable to this laudable Practice Condole with you for the Same. We Open your Eyes that you may look Chearfully. We Open your Ears that you may hear us, and Clear your Throats that you may Speak freely to us.— We likewise Gather the Bones of the Deceased of your People, & bury them deep, carefully covering the Grave from your Sight. And We once more kindle the fire at this place, and Sweep out all the Dust from the Council Chamber that nothing may Obstruct us in our busineſs

3 Strings

Then Thomas King on behalf of the Warriors of the Six Nations arose, & Said

Brother—

I take this Opportunity on behalf of all the Warriors of the Six Nations, and their Confederates now aſsembled to let you know that we are not well pleased with our Sachems, for neglecting to acquaint us with what they purposed to Say this Morning, and for not giving you our particular thanks for Calling, and Meeting us this Day, as the Occasion of this Aſsembly is principally on *our* Accounts upon a Matter in which, *we* as Warriors are particularly Interested.— And, they well know it, for, *there* are the Men (pointing to the Cherokee chiefs) whose Buſineſs they all know is chiefly to us the Warriors to Invite us to Engage against their troublesome Neighbours, with whose Conduct we are likewise much Diſsatisfied.— I do, therefore with this Belt, at the Desire, and on the part of all the Warriors here aſsembled from Canada to Ohio, and of the Cherokee Deputies, take you now by the hand in the most friendly manner, kindly thanking you for complying with our Request in Calling us together, and giving you a most hearty Wellcome to this place, where we are all happy to find that you are arrived in Safety—

A Belt of 5 Rows

Then Tagawara an Oneida Chief stood up on the part of Sir William Johnson, and firſt Addreſsed the Indians of Canada as follows.

Brothers of the Seven Nations of Canada.—

I am very glad to See you all here this Day agreeable to Summons. It is a proof of your Attention to the Affairs of your Confederacy, and I sincerely wellcome you upon the Occasion.—

then Addreſsing the Reſt, & repeating what Conoquieson said, proceeded.

Brothers.— I am glad to See you all this Day in health, and am well pleased, that in Consequence of the Circumstances you mention, you have now brought hither the Chiefs of so many Nations, & Confederate Tribes: because by them means none can plead Ignorance of our— Transactions, and the Buſineſs will go on to the Satisfaction of you all. I do therefore give thanks to Providence for permitting us to meet this Day, and Cordially take you all by the hand, bidding you a hearty Wellcome to this place.

3 Strings.—

Brothers.—

As a proof of my Regard for the wise Institution of your Ancestors, and from the Information I have Received of the Loſses you have Sustained since our laſt Meeting, I do now on the part of his Majesty the King of Great Britain sincerely Condole with you on this melancholly Occasion. I Open your Eyes that you may Once more look with Chearfulneſs, and your Ears that you may hear Distinctly, And I clear the Paſsages to your Heart that you may Speak freely its real Sentiments. I do also Gather the Bones of your dead, and I bury them in a deep Pit, carefully Covering them from your Sight, and I also Sweep, and cleanse your Council Fire, that we may meet therein, & proceed to buſineſs without Interruption.—

Gave three Strings.—

Then after Repeating the Speech of Thomas King he Addreſsed the Warriors, and Cherokees as follows.—

Brothers.–

I am much Obliged, in that you have Expreſsed so much Desire to thank me particularly on your parts. I Entertain a high Opinion, and Regard for you all; and by this Belt, I now take you all by the hand in the most friendly manner, giving you a very kind, and friendly Wellcome to this place, wishing that you may allways Conduct your selves with Prudence, & Attention to the true Interest of your reſpective Nations.–

A Belt of Six Rows.–

Then Addreſsing the Whole, he said.–

Brothers of the several Nations here Aſsembled.–

I am very glad that we have now so far prepared for Buſineſs by going through the usual Forms to mutual Satisfaction, and shall be ready to enter on the Important Affairs for which we are aſsembled, on the Arrival of the rest of your People who are hourly expected. —— Then Sir William Ordered Pipes, and Tobacco to be distributed amongst them, and recommended it to the Warriors, that as he was using his Utmost Endeavors, that they should be Supplied with what Neceſsarys they wanted, he Expected that they would behave with Order, and Decorum, – that they would avoid Liquor, and Committ no Violence on any of the Property of the Inhabitants.– Then Adjourned

In the Afternoon Sir William held several private Meetings with the Chiefs in Order to Inform himself as to their Sentiments, and Resolutions at that time. —— In the Evening several of the Mohawks arrived, and Reported that the rest would Join them early to-Morrow. —— At night Sir William Called together a Sachem, and Head Warrior ~~together~~ from each of the principal Nations, with whom–

whom he held a Conference untill the Night was far advanced; of the
there were Some who were much to be depended upon for their Integrity, from whom (amongst Other things of much Importance) to be known previous to the Congress, he lear
that the Warriors were for the much greater part Obstinately bent o
on a War with the Southern Indians. — that great part of the —
Sachems, convinced by the Arguments Sir William had made use
of at the private Conferences, would have gladly declined it, an
seem'd disposed to Send the Cherokee Deputies back after renewing
the late Treaties, and giving them farther Assurances of their frie
-ship for that Nation, but that they very much doubted whether t
Warriors could be persuaded thereto, as they were much exasperat
at the Insults which Some of the Confederacy had received fr
the Indians of Wabash &c and that in Consequence of the treatmen
the English had Received from these Nations, the Warriors Expecte
not Only their Concurrence, but their Aid, and Assistance to car
it on in like manner as they had formerly Assisted the English.

Sir William further Learned, that there were Some Other very Interesting Points to be Spoken upon at the Congress, on all whic
he had much Conversation with those present, using his utmost
Endeavors to procure a favorable Issue to the Congress, and Endeavor
all in his power to Avoid their making any Requisition of Aid
from the English Should it So happen that a War must take pla

Thursday July 19.th 1770

Early in the Morning the Remainder of the Mohawks
Arived.

The Chiefs of the Canada Indians in Consequenc
of

of the Murder of three of the Six Nations formerly at Oswegatchy on which they had never Condoled, Aſsembled at Sir William's Quarters, and after calling together the rest of the Indians, proceded to the Bower, where the Seven Nations of Canada after premising the Occasion of their Meeting then, and that they could not with propriety Unite in Measures untill they had Obeyed the Institutions of their Ancestors, by performing in the fullest manner the Ceremony of Condolance for those Loſses, & giving the neceſsary Belts &c. to the Six Nations on that Occasion. — This having taken up the greatest part of the Fore-noon, the Chiefs of the Six Nations Informed him that they would consider on an answer, and accordingley withdrew to a private Council place to Deliberate thereon. —

About Noon four Canoes with 26 Miſsiſsages from the North side of Lake Ontario Came to Camp to Attend the Congreſs. —

Sir William having Judged it highly neceſsary, as well from the Temper of the Indians, the Greatneſs of their Numbers, and the Disorders they are too liable to Committ, when in Liquor, Advised the Magistrates to give Notice to the Traders &c by no means to Sell them any, Untill the Congreſs was Ended; and it was done previous to his Arrival: but having this day received Information that some Traders &c. had Actualy Sold them a Keg of Rum, and that Others had Resolved to follow ~~their~~ this Example, which greatly Alarmed the Inhabitants, and Occasioned their Applications to him to Check it, he Iſsued a Notification under his hand & Seal which he Sent throughout the whole Settlement by a Peace Officer strictly forbidding them at their Peril to Sell any Rum to the Indians, or any Spirituous Liquors whatsoever during the Congreſs, untill they had removed, when they might Sell it to them beyond the Settlements; the Apprehensions of the Inhabitants being very great, as from the Temper shewn by many of the Warriors, they had Reason to dread, that neither their Property, or Persons would be secure Should they get Liquor amongst them. ~

The Six Nations after sometime Spent in Council, returned to the publick Council place, and after Returning thanks to the Indians of Canada performed the Ceremony of Condolance, and gave the usual Belts to them in Return. ~

In the Afternoon, the Indians being in Readineſs, waited on on Sir William, when the future Proceedings of the day being regulated, and Resolved upon, they proceeded to the Bower, where Abraham chief of the Mohawks acquainted the Rest with the Buſineſs then to be entred upon, after which Teyawarunte Speaker of the six Nations, did on behalf of Sir William Johnson perform the whole Ceremony of Condolance for a Mohawk Chief lately dead, a Cayuga killed by one of that Nation, and a Seneca Chief lately Drowned, and Delivered the several Belts for the several Purposes on such Occasions, covering the Grave with a black Belt, they answering with a Yo'-hah customary o Condolances. ——— The Indians, after being a short time in Consultatio Addreſsed Sir William by Conoquieson their Speaker, and after repeating all that he had Said to them, they returned the Ceremony of Condolan in like manner, - which Ended, the Chiefs all shook hands wth. Sir Will: 241 and the rest of the Gentlemen, Returning him many thanks for having made their Minds easy. ——— Then Sir William arose, and told them

that

at he was happy to find that every thing was so far Settled
mutual Satisfaction, that there now only remained to attend
the Principal Busineſs for which they Aſsembled; to that
nd he Recommended it to them to preserve Sobriety, and good
rder in their Encampments, and to be in readineſs to attend
he Morning following, when he Should make them a Speech.—

Then the Cayuga Chief Arose, and Condoled for the Murder
of a Tuscarora committed a few Days before by Thomas King
and Covered the Grave &c. — After which Adjourned.

The Miſsiſsagaes from the North Side of Lake Onta=
rio Arrived at Sir William's Quarters, and after the usual
Salutations, told him, that being at Oswego with others of their
Nation, they, who were for the most part the Principal Men thought proper to
attend him, on hearing that he had Opened a Congreſs with
their Bretheren. —— Sir William after Expreſsing his
satisfaction at Seeing them, and bidding them Wellcome, told them
that he could have no Objection to their being present, but that
on the Contrary he was always glad of any Opportunity of
making his Tranſactions publick with all well Disposed Indians.—

This Night, the Boats having on Board the Present for
the Indians Arrived after a tedious Paſsage Occasioned by the
Lowneſs of the Water at this Season.—

At a Congreſs

At a Congreſs Held at the German Flatts

On Friday July the 19th 1770:—

Present—

The Honorable Sir William Johnson Bart. Super-Intendt.

Coll. Daniel Claus } Depy. Agents—
Coll. Guy Johnson }
Richard Shuckburgh Esqr.— Secy. for Indian affairs
John Butler Esqr.— Interpreter—
Capt. Norman McLeod of the late 80th. Regimt.—
Coll. Hanjst. Harkemer } Justies of the Peace—
Rudolph Shomaker— }
Capt. Michael Byrne— With the Several
nations of Indians before Mentioned—

Being all Seated Sir William Addreſsed them as follows. —

Brothers of the Six Nations, of the Seven Nations of Canada, of the Several Dependant Tribes, — and all others here Aſsembled. Sachems, Chiefs, and Warriors.

I desire that you will Carefully Attend to the Words I have now to Say to you; it being on Matters of great Importance to you all. —— Our Brothers of the Six Nations sent Meſsages to me last Fall from their great Council Fire at Onondaga accompanied by the Cherokee Deputies here present to acquaint me, that these Deputies were Charged (as Ambaſsadors from their Nations) with Belts, Meſsages, and a Pipe to Strengthen their Alliance, & Sollicit the Aid of the Six Nations against the Piankeshaws, Wawaightonos, and Others, as a People troublesome, and Enemies to both, on which the Six Nations could not Determine, untill agreable to their Engagements, they had first in publick Congreſs had my Sentiments and Concurrence thereon. —— At the earnest Sollicitations of the Six Nation Meſsengers, and the Cherokee Deputies, Seconded by the Representations of Thomas King, who had accompanied them from the Cherokee Country, and the many Requests since Repeated, of the Six Nations, I, after consulting the King's General, laid the same before his Majesty, who has through my Representations been graciously pleased to Impower me to Meet you on this Occasion where I am ready to hear your Sentiments, and Give you my Advice; after which, I shall Speak to you upon your late Treaty, which the King has Impowered me to Ratify, and also to Attend to any Other publick Affairs that may Occur. — I therefore Recommend it to you in the Course of this Busineſs to pay the most Serious Regard to what I have to Offer —

and, ~~and~~ to give me in Answer the Truth, the Words of your heart. ~

A Belt 11 Rows ~

Brothers ~

As so many of the Chiefs already know much of my Sentiments concerning the Embaſsy from the Cherokees, I think it now more particularly neceſsary to addreſs you the Warriors thereupon. ——— In the first place you Should Consider, that War Should never be Carried on with any Nation without very Sufficient Reasons, and untill all other Measures have proved Ineffectual; for a Desire on every Slender Pretence to make War, will undoubtedly cause many of your friends to be Jealous of you, and may Occasion the forming a powerfull Confederacy on the part of the Enemy, which although you may be able to withstand, will nevertheleſs So far Engage the greatest part of your Young Men, that Hunting, and Trade which are the Bleſsings attendant on the Peace you now Enjoy, must be greatly, if not totally Neglected; the want of this, you must all feel, and this is not the only Loſs you must Sustain in any War with a Numerous People. ~

In the next place, those Nations against whom it is Said you are disposed to Carry your Arms, have been Considered as friends in Alliance with you, and though from their Situation, & most probably from the Evil Councils of the French, they have been Induced to do Some Mischief, you Should still Consider, that in Attacking them, you weaken your selves. — this is bad Policy, as the Breach is not so irrepairable, but that through proper Negotiations, a mutual good Understanding may be effected between you, whereas Warlike People who have once

Quarrelled are not easily brought to a Strict Union afterwards.—

I have already Expressed my thoughts so candidly to the Chiefs, that I now Confine myself to these principal Arguments, to which I shall add one more that ought to be of the greatest Weight with you, and that is the Sentiment of the great King your Father, and of his Subjects, which will also I trust Convince you that they are your Real friends, and teach you to Regard them accordingly.— Another King, another People, indeed any People who had not an Esteem for the Indians would be glad of this Occasion to Stir you up to War, because War would weaken both you, and your Adversarys.— that this is not the Case with us you must plainly Discern; for the King Esteems you, & wishes to See you live happily, and at Peace with all your Neighbours.— These are likewise the Wishes of all his Subjects.— they know that it is for your Interest, and they cannot give you a Stronger Demonstration of their Friendship, at the Same time that they lay you under no Restraint in this particular beyond what your own Reason must approve of.— Consider this cooly, and deliberately, & give me in Answer the real Sentiments of your hearts.—

A Belt of 9 Rows—

Sir William then Spoke to the Cherokee Deputies, and Cautioned them Strictly to Observe the Instructions they had received from their Chiefs, without Addition, or Alteration, as it might be of bad Consequence Should they say anything to the Northern Indians beyond what they had been Authorized;— All which they Assured him they would strictly Observe.—

Tothy—

To this Speech the Indians after Some time Spent in Consultation Answered, that they had heard with Attention all that Sir William had said to them — that they were very thankfull to him for the Regard he had expressed for their Interests — that their Chiefs would Assemble early in the Morning, and Deliberate with as much Expedition, as such a weighty Affair would Admit of, on a proper Answer, which they would Deliver to him so soon as they were Agree'd in Sentiments. —

Then Adjourned.

Saturday July 20th. —

In the Morning the Sachems, and Chief Warriors of both the Confederacys, or Leagues of the Six Nations, and the rest, met in their Encampments to take Sir William's Speech into Consideration, where they Spent the whole Day in Deliberation without being able to come to a Conclusion. — In the mean time Sir William finding that (Notwithstanding all his Endeavors) that Liquor was brought amongst the Indians, rode round the Adjacent Settlements to Caution the Traders, and Other Persons not to Sell any. —— In the Evening three Chiefs deputed from the Several Nations waited on Sir William to Apologize for their not Returning an Answer this day as they had purposed; which they assured him was Owing to the Difficulties it met with from the Warriors, who Seem'd averse to any thing but War. — that the three Principal Branches of the Confederacy, the Mohawks Onondagas, and Senecas had at length Agree'd to an Answer, but that the rest were not as yet Come to any Conclusion. — Sir William spent some hours in Discourse with these Chiefs, and Others whom he Sent for, in Order to Expedite their Answer, the Necessity of which he represented from the Scarcity of Provisions for so great a Number Owing to the unfavorable

Season, and the Loſs of the Inhabitants Crops, and discoursed a long time with them on the Matters he recommended to their Consideration. —

Sunday July the 21st — 1770

The former part of this day was Spent in private Conferences as well between the Indians, as with Sir William, and the Chiefs, in order that they might be thorougly Satisfied with his Advice, & Unanimous in their Answer. —— Early in the Afternoon they acquainted Sir William that they were ready to deliver their Answer, and accordingly Aſsembled. —

Present as before. —

Being all Seated, the Onondaga Speaker called to the Speakers, and Chiefs of the rest to Approach the Front near Sir William in order to give in their Answer, which done they appointed Abraham Chief of the Mohawks their Speaker who Addreſsed Sir William as follows. —

Brother —

The Six Nations, and their Dependants from Ohio, to Canada have now Aſsembled after two days spent in Deliberation, to deliver you their Answer to your Speech. —— then repeated what Sir William had Said on his first Belt, and Added, now, Brothr., we have according to your Advice taken your discourse into due Consideration. — A Belt 11 Rows —

Brother. —

You desired that we Should give you an Answer from the bottom of our Hearts; We accordingly met Amongst ourselves and have had many Debates together in Order to bring about what Seemd So pleasing to the King, at your Desire. — this took up all our time, and has prevented us from giving you an answer Sooner. — He then Repeated what Sir William had Said on his Second Belt, after which he proceeded as follows. –

Brother. –

You have very kindly Signify'd to us, that the King does not desire to See us at War with Indian Nations, and you have likewise given us your Opinion thereupon, and Shewn us the Dis=advantages of it in a very clear Light. —— Brothr, we have seriously Considered all this, and believing that it is the King's Re=gard for us that Occasions him to Wish us at Peace, & Confiding in your Friendship, which we are certain has Induced you to give us this Advice, We at length do agree to the Same, and Shall Strictly follow it, provided we can bring those troublesome Nations to Reason and Submiſsion without War, and live peaceably as we do with the Southern Indians, to this End we Shall Stay all Hostilities, and make use of our Younger Brothers the Shawanese, who live near them, to Convince them of their Folly, and Presumption, and if this has a Due Effect, and that these Nations will Join heartily in promoting Peace, and Abiding by their Antient Agreements, we Shall be well pleased, and Shall not make War upon them. — This, Brothr, you may be Aſsured is the Determined Resolution of us all, and therefore you may Depend upon it that we Shall Observe what we have Said to you. –

A Belt 10 Rows. –

Brothers. –

We have Endeavored as much as poſsible hitherto to keep our People Sober, and Quiet: We are very Sensible, that it would Overset all Busineſs, if our People got Liquor, for, as our Young

Men are with difficulty kept within Bounds, when Sober, it is certainly impoſsible to do any thing with them when drunk. We therefore now Aſsure you, that it is our Resolution, during the Course of this Treaty to keep our Selves Sober; and Should any Kegs of Liquor be brought amongst us ~~during~~ by the Traders ~~Course of this Treaty~~, we will on Discovery Stave them to pieces;

Gave three Strings

Brother

We have now Answered you Sincerely & from our hearts on One part of the Busineſs which has Occasioned our present Meeting, and we hope that it will be agreeable to you, and are ready to proceed on the rest. — they then Conferred for some time in private after which Sir William Addreſsed them —

Brothers — The Six Nations & others here Aſsembled

I have Attended Seriously to your Answer concerning the War you proposed to Engage in; I have as well before, as during the Course of our Proceedings here Said so much to you on the Subject, that I persuaded my self you would be Convinced, and am glad to find that you are so; And I know that it must Appear as a Striking proof of his Majesty's Humanity and Regard for you all, and that you may easily perceive that I have had no Other Motive in Recommending it to you, than my Friendship, and Sincere Wiſhes for your Prosperity. I know that there are Some Parties of yours that are now gone to the Southward. — As this is not Consistant with the pacific Sentiments you have Expreſsed for the Southern Indians, I think they Should be Recalled; And when you Send to the Shawanese for the purposes you have mentioned, I recommend it to you to make Choice of wise Deputies, good Men who will faithfully execute the trust you repose in them, sincerely wishing for your own Sakes that you may faithfully abide by the Resolutions, you have now Expreſsed to me. –

Brothers

I am very glad that you have Determined to let no Rum come amongst you, as that Liquor will not only Obstruct Busineſs, but may be productive of the most dangerous Consequences. – You see, and know the pains that I have taken to prevent it, and I hope that you will do the like on your parts, Agreeable to yr. Promises. –

Brothers. –

The King, my Master having Received all the Papers, and Proceedings relative to the great Treaty at Fort-Stanwix, together with the Deed of Ceſsion, which you then Executed to him, has laid them before his Council of great men and after Considering the whole of it, has Signified to me (what I hope will be deemed a further Instance of his Paternal Goodneſs) that he did not require the Land so far to the Southward, if it was of the least Inconvenience to his Children, whose Interest he has so much at heart. He has at length in Compliance with your own Desires, as transmitted by me, and the publick Grant that you made, Impowered me to Ratify the same by Letters I have received from the Lord who is one of his Majesty's Secretarys (holding the Letter in his hand), which I now purpose to do. — You all know the Deed of Ceſsion, of which this, (shewing a Copy) is a true Copy. You all know that it was Executed in a publick Meeting of the greatest Number of Indians that has ever aſsembled within the time of our Remembrances, and that all who had any pretensions were Duely Summoned to it. — You all remember the great, and Valuable Present you received upon that Occasion, exceeding any thing you had ever seen. — yet nothwithstanding all this, I find that there are Some of your Dependants who live by your Toleration, and who never had any Title to the Soil, who talk as if they were Dissatisfied with your Act, or doubted your Authority. — It is therefore incumbent on you to See into, and make diligent Enquiry about it, and to shew those People, if any Such there be, their Folly. — this I Expect you will do without delay, as a Testimony of your Gratitude to the King, and in Justice to your selves; And I Expect that upon this Occasion, you will make choice of honest, Wise men, who will not Deviate from their Instructions, but faithfully Execute what you Direct them. Fully persuaded that you will do this, and that you are resolved to Abide for ever faithfully by your Engagements entred into at that time, I do now by Virtue of the Powers to me given in the Name, and on behalf of his Britanick Majesty, Ratify, and Confirm the whole of the Treaty made at Fort — Stanwix in 1768, and also the Deed of Cession to the King then Executed (Except what relates to the private Grants, which his Majesty will Consider of) and I do declare that the Same is ratified accordingly. —

A Belt. —

The Indians, in Answer expressed their Satisfaction at what Sir William had said, to which as it was very late, they deferred giving an Answer untill next Day.

Then Adjourned.

At night Sir William had a Conference with a principal Sachem, and Warrior of each Nation, when he Spoke with them on the Subjects for the Meeting tomorrow. — he found, that besides some Grievances, which were to be the Subject of the future Proceedings, the Indians were Suspicious, that the English intended totally to Neglect, and Disregard them, and that this Opinion daily gained Ground amongst the several Nations. — the Chiefs Spoke with much Warmth on the reduced State of those living under our Arm, (as they called it,) namely the Mohawks, & others living amongst our Settlements, who they remarked had been very usefull to us, and were now greatly neglected by the English. —— the Mohawks in particular, (Supported by the rest) Signifyed their Desire to Speak in publick, that his Majesty would take their Case into Consideration, and allow them a Miſsionary, Observing, that they, and their Fathers had been Christianized, and attended for many years by Ministers of the Church of England — that a former King had built them a Church, and had taken much Care of them, but that they have been now for many years without an English Clergyman, which gave them much Concern. —— Sir William, foreseeing, that these, and many Other matters of a private Nature, would, if Spoken in publick, furnish part of the Confederacy with Subjects for Disagreeable Reflections, Represented to them, that there would be no Occasion to bring matters before the Rest of the Nations, in which they were not Particularly concerned, as he would Lay them before his Majesty, from whose generous Sentiments, & pious Regards for their future Welfare, they might Expect that they would be attended to. —

The Sachems, and Chiefs of Canada Indians desired a Conference in publick with Sir William, and being Aſsembled, their Speaker Addreſsed him. —

Monday – July 22d 1770 –

Brother. –

We have desired to Speak to you in this publick manner on an Affair which Concerns ourselves, and which has Occasioned great Uneaſineſs amongst us. —— Brothr. – you know us for many years, – we knew you, and Esteemed your Character when we were in the Army of the French, and when you came down with the Army to Montreal ten years agoe. – You then Spoke to us, gave us good Words, and by the Order of the General gave us Solemn Aſsurances, that if we did not Aſsist the French, but permitted you to Deſcend the River without Interruption we should be placed among the Number of your friends, and Enjoy our Rights, and Poſseſsions, and the free Exercise of our Religion for ever. – this we believed, for we knew your Character, and had a Confidence in you, and accordingly agreed to your Request, and have ever Since behaved in such a manner as to Demonstrate our Fidelity, and Attachment to the English. –

Brother.

You allways give us good Words, and have shewn yourself our friend. It is therefore with Concern we tell you our Grievances at this time Occasioned by the Ill disposed People who give Disturbance in Several Quarters. —— Brothr. – You are not Ignorant that there are many Men of whom we have before Complained, who are no longer our friends, and either Guided by Interest, or perhaps from Resentment on finding our Attachment to the English, endeavor to Alter the minds of all the great Men who have been sent to Command in Canada, and to misrepresent us to them. through such means our Brothers at St Regis have been distreſsed for Sometime past by Intruders imposed on them from another Nation, who have no pretensions to Live in their Village: And last Winter, a Frenchman Named Clignancourt, came into Our Principal Village of Cagnawagee, bought a House privately, & was no sooner Settled, than he began to Create much Disturbance by telling false Stories to the Commanding Officer there, and giving Countenance to Immoralities that are highly displeasing to us. Our Priest who is a peaceable good Man, endeavored as far as was in his power to Restrain these Disorders in the usual manner, and to punish the Offenders according to the Religious forms of our Church, but was threatned, and treated with the greatest Contempt, so that he could not do his Duty, through the Artifices of this Frenchman. This gives us great Concern, and if we are not Redressed, we may in a little time be deprived of the use of that Religion, the use of which we were assured should be permitted to us. We therefore earnestly request that you will take this matter into Serious Consideration, and if you shall think it fitting, that you may lay it before the King, that we may not be Interrupted hereafter in the Exercise of our Religion, or our Priests prevented from Inflicting Such Such Pains, and Penances, as Our Church requires, on Offenders.

A Belt 7 Rows.

To which Sir William answered.

Brothers.

I have attended to your Speech, and do assure you that I have not forgot any part of the Engagements we formerly entred into, and which it is his Majesty's Intention shall be strictly Observed in every particular. You have therefore nothing to fear on that Account.

The Affair of St. Regis, I understand has been lately settled to the satisfaction of the Indians of that place, and as to what you mention respecting your Village at Cagnawagee, I make no Doubt that it would be soon Settled in the like Manner, on my Acquainting the Governor of Quebec therewith; but, as he is now, I understand, Sail'd for England, I think the readiest Method to Gratify your desire, will be by Letter to the Frenchman. I shall accordingly write to him in a proper Manner, and give Coll. Claus Instructions about the affair on his Return to Canada, which will be in a few Days. ——

You may be Aſsured of his Majesty's Esteem, and that I shall Continue to Shew you all the friendship in my Power, so long as you Continue to Promote Peace, and Adhere faithfully to yr. Engagements.—

Returned their Belt

The Indians spent the Forenoon of this day in Council, and about Noon Sir William had a Conference with some of the Chiefs on the Subject of their Answer. —In the Afternoon the Indians sent to Acquaint Sir William that they were Aſsembled. ——

At a Congreſs with ~~the several~~ the several Nations of Indians, Monday July 22d. 1770

Present as before

Conoquieson Asked whether Sir William was ready to attend to what they had to say. —On being answered in the Affirmative Abraham stood up and Addreſsed him as follows. ——

Brothr. &c—

Brother Gorah: Warraghiyagey —

We are now met together in full Council to answer you concerning what you last Spoke to us about the Kings having received our Deed, and the Proceedings at Fort Stanwix with his Ratification of the same, with which we are highly pleased, and we Shall also Speak on what you have mentioned concerning the Discontent some Indians have Expreſsed at part of our Ceſsion. — Brothr., We begg therefore that you will Attend to what we have now to Answer. —

Brother. —

When we met you to so great a Number & in so public a manner at Fort Stanwix, we Should have hardly Acted as we did, unleſs we had been poſseſsed of a full Right to the Lands, and had full Authority to do so. We are Surprized that any Doubt can Arise about it. You very well know, that our Title has been allways Indisputable. As to the Pretensions of any inconsiderable People behind our Backs, we shall soon Silence them, and we now desire that you may Aſsure the King, that it was our Property we Justly disposed of, that we had full Authority to do so. We Return the King the Sincere thanks of all our Nations for Ratifying the Same, and we again Confirm it, promising to Abide allways thereby. —

A Belt 8 Rows —

Brother

We are very happy to hear of the good Disposition of the King towards us, and the Aſsurances you give us on that Occasion. We are highly pleased with the Indifference the King shews for Lands, and we consider it as a Sure Sign of his Regard that he does not love to see us at War.

Brothr. —

Brother.—

We are not desirous of making War, but when the same appears neceſsary. We therefore now Acquiesce ~~in~~ with your Advice to us, and shall let the Southern Nations alone, provided they Act a proper part towards us. but, Brothr., whilst we Expreſs our selves so Disposed, we cannot help Reflecting on the treatment we still continue to Receive, particularly on the Southern Frontiers, where our People are frequently Robbed, and Murdered, and no Reparation made for all this. —— If we Inclined to be Silent at Such Conduct, our Young Men would force us to Speak, and that warmly. they would soon be for Revenge, as the Provocation we have Received is too great to be longer born with. —— Brother,— We Request that the great King will give Orders to his Governors, and great Men concerning these matters, aſsuring you that we are Disposed to Abide by our Engagements, and Restrain Our Young People, but that we cannot pretend to do it, unleſs a Speedy End be put to the Behavior of the People who have so Repeatedly attacked us.—

A Black Belt 10 Rows—

Brother.

At the Treaty at Fort—Stanwix, you then told us, as you had Done before, that we Should paſs our time in Peace, and Travell in Security, that Trade Should flourish, & Goods abound, that they Should be Sold us Cheap, and that Care Should be taken to prevent any persons from Imposing on us.— Brother, this would have Endeared all the English to us.— but we do not See it.— It is now worse than it was before; for we cannot get Goods at all at present, and we hear from all Traders that

nobody—

27
26
24
6
83

nobody will bring in any, and that you have none for your selves. Brother. — We should take up a great deal of time, if we repeated all that we Suffer by these things, but you must be your self sensible of them, and therefore we Rely upon you that you will lay these matters before the King, and represent our Situation so that he may hearken to Our Words, and Afford us Redress. —

A Belt 10 Rows —

Then Conoguieson Stood up & Said —

Brother. —

Agreeable to what you yesterday Recommended to us, we have now fixed upon four Chiefs from amongst us, who are men of Sense that will faithfully deliver our Words to the Shawanese, of which Number Thomas King is the Principal, who is a man, that you may be assured, will faithfully execute whatever is desired of him. ——— then acquainted the Six Nations, and Sir William Johnson, that by the Death of Gawehe a Tuscarora Sachim there was a Vacancy at the Council Fire, and accordingly raised up Tarruwahwage to Supply his place with the usual Ceremonys. ——— After which Saghtaghroana, on behalf of the Seven Nations of Canada Stood up & Said

Brother. —

We the Nations Living in Canada Express our sincere thanks to you for having by your Prudence, and Wisdom brought all the Nations here into one way of thinking, which no Other person could ever have effected: this is a great Work Brother, And it gives us a great pleasure, and I now Speak to you, and all the Nations in public upon it. — Brother, when We united ourselves with the English on the Reduction of Canada we

them

then resolved to Act like Men, to be true to our Engagements, and to Scorn Lyes. —— We then agreed for the Preservation of Peace, that the Caghnawagees should have their Eyes on the Council Fire of the Six Nations at Onondaga, and the other Council fire at your House, whilst our Brethern at Canasadaga should have their Eyes upon all the Nations up the Ottawa, or great River to the Westward. —— Brother, We did this; we allways gave you true Intelligence, and Studied to Promote Peace; for Brothr., We are men of our Words, men who despise Double dealing, and are incapable of Deceit. We Shall Still Act up to that Character, and our Actions Shall prove the Truth of what we now Say. We Resolve, in Order to promote the Work, which you have begun, and so Successfully Conducted, to send proper Deputies to the Indians to the Westward, taking that part of the Negotiation entirely upon ourselves, and we Shall agree with the Six Nations in the Message they send, that we may not Speak with two Mouths upon so important an Occasion. the men we Shall make Choice of, Shall be such as we may all place the utmost Confidence in, and they Shall have Orders from us to Return by way of Detroit, and Fort-Pitt to your House to bring you a faithfull Report of the Negotiation. —

Then Shew'd the Belt which they purposed to Send.

Then Abraham the Chief returned Sir William the Belt which he had Sent to the Meeting at Onondaga last fall, cautioning them not to let their Warriors go to War, or Enter into any rash Resolves untill they heard from him. — with this having Complied, they according to Custom returned the Belt. — After which Abraham Returned the Belt sent last Spring by Sir William to the Seneca's Country, to Require them to Collect all the Horses they could, the Property of the White People, and to Deliver them up. All which they Promised, strictly to Comply with, and to prevent any from being taken in future by their people, or Dependants.—

The Speaker then acquainted Sir William that they had finished all the Material Buſineſs of the Congreſs.—

To All which Sir William answered, as follows.—

Brethern of the several Nations here aſsembled.—

I am well pleased with the Answer which you have given me on the several Subjects, and, I hope that your Actions will correspond with the Words you have made use of.— As I am well acquainted with your Claims and Pretensions, I considered the Murmurings of some of your Dependants, as of little Importance.— It is nevertheleſs a Duty which you Owe to your selves to put a Stop to them, and I am very glad to hear that you have taken Resolutions for that purpose, which I hope, and Expect you will See Performed.

Brothers.—

It is with Concern that I hear you Complain, that the People on the Southern Frontiers Still Continue to Molest you, because I know that great Pains have been taken to put a Stop to such Behavior.—

Brothers.— You know, that I have often told you upon that Subject, that I have reason to believe, much of the Ill treatment you meet with, proceeds from the Indiscretion of some of your Young People, when paſsing through that part of the Country, amongst People who Suffered, severely

During the War; I shall nevertheleſs as you desire lay your Complaint before his Majesty, who I am persuaded will give any Orders that may be farther neceſsary for your Security, — and I am certain that the Several Governors will use their utmost Endeavors for that purpose. but I Expect in return that, you will give the most Strict Caution to your Young People, that they Govern themselves in a peaceable, quiet Manner, when they resort to that Country; for otherwise you cannot Expect that the Inhabitants will treat them with Kindneſs.—

Brothers.—

I very well Remember all the Promises that have been made you, and also the Engagements between us.— You all See that they are Committed to Writing in your Presence.—
I know that, amongst Other things, you Received Aſsurances of a free, and plentifull Trade, and I can confidently aſsure you that you will Still Enjoy the Same.— It is true, that for Some little time Goods have been Scarce; but I can now Inform you, that they will be again in great Plenty, as the Merchants have now Sent for large Cargoes which may be very soon Expected at New York, and a large Quantity is already come to Montreal, according to certain Advices I have lately received.—
I have likewise the pleasure to Acquaint you, that (although the Affair has taken up Some time from the Distance of some of our Colonies from the Others) there is now a good prospect, that the Affairs of Trade will Speedily be Regulated on Terms of Advantage to you all, as I have heard that Some Commiſsioners for that purpose are already met, and more on their way to the place appointed for Determining thereupon. I shall however

Comply with your Request in Laying this Matter before the King on whose Attention to these, and all Other Affairs in which you are Interested, you may safely, and Confidently Rely.

Brothers.

I Approve of the Manner you have resolved upon to send Meſsengers to the Shawanese, and of the Men you have Chosen for that Purpose. But, as I likewise intend to send Meſsengers as well to the Shawanese as to Michilimacinac, I shall expect to be made Acquainted with the Purport of your meſsage that we may both Correspond On that Subject.

Brothers of the Seven Nations of Canada.

I thank you for your honest, and Spirited Addreſs to my self, and all here Aſsembled, & I greatly Approve of your Resolutions to send Meſsengers in the Manner you propose. I shall gladly Join them with Meſsengers from my Self, to which End it will be neceſsary that I know what you Intend to charge them with, that we may Unite in Sentiments. —

Then it growing late, and a Thunder Storm Coming on, Sir William thanked them all for their Accordation with him in Sentiments, and Adjourned.

Tuesday July 23d. In the Morning the Indians all aſsembled in Council.

Present as before

Sir William having desired their Attention Spoke as follows

Brothers of the Six Nations of Canada, & all others here Aſsembled.

Having now brought the Buſineſs of this Treaty to a favorable Conclusion, I cannot help Expreſsing my Satisfaction thereat.

thereat, and at the Readineſs, and Unanimity which the Chiefs have Manifested upon this Occasion. It only now remains, that I close this Congreſs in a Suitable Manner by Adding Strength and Weight to Our Proceedings. — I do therefore by this Belt, Renew, and Strenghten the Covenant Chain, or Alliance Entred into between our Ancestors, and Yours. I likewise Clean, and Brighten it, so that it may not Contract any Rust: And I do aſsure you on the part of the great King, that we Shall take Care to hold it Fast, and preserve it unhurt to the latest Posterity, if you will on your parts be Observant of the part which is in your hands, and take equal Care of it. — I likewise Declare, that it is the Intention of his Majesty, and all his Subjects to Abide by, and Fullfill the Engagements with you so far as is poſsible, and I Recommend it to you all to make publick the Transactions of this Treaty throughout all the Nations to the Setting of the Sun; And as you Value yourselves, and Wish to be happy, to Abide by, and faithfully Perform all that you have promised. —

Gave the Belt of the Covenant Chain, after which every Nation gave the Yo.hah —

Brothers. —

Notwithstanding the great Additional Expence which the King, my Master, has been at in Bestowing Favors on such an Additional Number of Indians, as by the Reduction of Canada have been Admitted into our Alliance, his Majesty is still mindfull of you, and has therefore been graciously pleased to Consider your present Wants by Ordering you a handsome Present, which I have brought to this place, and which Shall now be Delivered to you. — I hope that you may Retain a gratefull Sense of these, and all other

Marks of his Royal Favor, and that you will allways be Studious to merit the Continuance of his Protection, and Friendship, and the Regard of all his Subjects. –

Brothers the Miſsasagas. –

I am glad that by your Attending at this Treaty you had an Opportunity of Observing the Friendship Subsisting between the English and your Brothers here Aſsembled, and the Unanimity with which we have brought Several Weighty Matters to an agreeable Conclusion. – I Recommend it to you faithfully to Relate the Particulars that have paſsed here, to your Nation, and Confederacy, at your Return, aſsuring them of the Friendship of the great King, and that I shall allways preserve a Sincere Regard for them, and their Interests, so long as they Continue to merit it by Contributing to Diffuse the Bleſsings of Peace throughout the Country within their Influence, and by Joining heartily in Promoting the Several Matters of Importance agreed upon before me by their Friends, and Confederates. – A Belt. –

Brethren of the Several Nations here aſsembled. –

Every thing for the present being agreeably Adjusted, and Concluded upon, I have only to Add my Expectations that you will be stedfast in fullfilling your Engagements; and I now Close the Treaty with my kindest Wishes for your Prosperity. –

Brothers the Cherokees. –

You have heard the Conclusion, and Determination of the Six Nations, and their Confederates; and upon Maturely Considering all

253 Circumstances I hope they will prove Agreeable to your Nation, to wha

I desire you will faithfully Report all the Transactions at this place, aſsuring them of my Friendſhip, and that I am much Obliged to them for the gratefull Sense, which from the Belts you deliver'd me, I find they Retain of my Endeavors in Effecting the Peace between them, and your Brothers here Aſsembled, that I shall allways Continue to Promote it, trusting that they will do the like on their Parts, and Sincerely wishing, that by Attending to the Words of your Brother in Carolina, who has the Care of you, you may Continue to Deserve the Esteem of the great King, and all his Subjects.—

2 fine Belts.—

The Six Nations then Renewed their Engagements with the Cherokees, acquainting the Deputies, that as they had now Come to a final Resolution before Sir William Johnson, they hoped that the Same would be found Satisfactory to the Cherokees.—

The Nanticoks then Addreſsed Sir William, requesting that he would give them a Paſsport, and Letter to the Governor of ---- Carolina, that they might go, and bring the Remainder of their People from thence, and Dispose of some Land they yet have there.

A Belt.—

They then earnestly Requested that he would prevent the Traders from bringing any more Rum down the Susquahana; as they who lived there, were determined to Abstain from Drinking, Seeing so many Murders Committed by means thereof.—

A Belt

Sir William promised them, that he woud, Grant them a Paſsport, and Also write in their favor to the Governor of Carolina Concerning their Lands there; and Recommended a proper Conduct to them as they paſsed through the Sevl Settlements &c.— Belt

Sir Wm

Sir William also promised, that he would do all in his power to discourage the bringing of Rum to their Settlements, and Expressed his Approbation of the Resolutions they had taken, and wished them to Continue firm in the Same. — Returned a Belt —

The Cayuga Chief then Arose, and Acquainted Sir William and the Six Nations that the Delawares, Monsies &c living at Chughnut Whalosing &c had promised to Remain where they now Live, and not regard the Invitation of their Countrymen living at Ohio, and further assured the Six Nations that they would Act agreeable to their Directions. — & Spoke with two Belts.

Then the Chiefs of the several Nations Assembled to Consider of an Answer to the Covenant Chain Belt, & after Sometime Spent Abraham the Mohawk Chief stood up, and in the name of the Six Nations & Canada Confederacy &c Repeated what Sir William had Said on said Belt, and Returned their most hearty thanks for Renewing the Covenant and they on their parts did the Same. —

The Onondaga Speaker then Arose, and Acquainted Sir William that they Appointed Taganahquaghsee in the Room of Kanajiakaira deceased, Tawahingseraghse of Kanaghcadirra in the Room of Oderogota Chieftain of the Warriors, and two more of the Onondaga Nation. All which they hoped he would Approve of, and Give them Such Testimonials &c as are usual on these Occasions. — Sir William Admitted, and Approved of their Recommendations, and after giving the Appointed Sachems the Necessary Admonitions, he told them that he would at next General Meeting give them the proper Testimonials &c which he had at his House

A large Belt. —

Wednesday Morning the Chiefs of each Nation present waited on Sir William at his Quarters to let him know the Purport of their Meſsage (to be sent by their Deputies to the Wawiaghtanakes, Pian=kashaas, Kickapos &c – which is as follows. –

Brethern –

These Deputies from the Six Nation Confederacy are now sent to Inform you of the Peace established between us, and the Cherokees, as well as the good Harmony, and Union that Subsists between us, our Brethren the English, and all the Nations of Indians to the rising of the Sun, at the same time to let you know our Surprize, and Displeasure at your Untoward, and Unruly Behavior towards some of our People, as well as to Our Brethren the English, who are Employed Carrying Goods to the Illenois for your use, and that of all the Indians in that Quarter, which Shews that you are not in your Senses. – Wherefore we now take you by the Head, and Shake you, so as to bring you to them, and also take that Hatchet out of your hands which you run about with Doing Mischief. – Should you still prove Obstinate, and Persevere in your Wickedneſs they are in that Case authorized by the whole Confederacy now aſsembled to tell you that the Consequence will prove fatal to you. Repent therefore of what you have done, Otherwise you will Inevitably Involve your Nations in a War, which must Terminate in your Ruin. –

A large Belt Shewn

The Canada Confederacy consisting of Seven Nations then told Sir William, that as they Intended to Wait on him to his House (in their way Home) they would there acquaint him with the Purport of their Meſsage to those troublesome Nations who were now like men Void of Sense Running about with a Sharp Ax in their Hands at a time when he was Endeavoring to Spread Peace over all the Land.

The Miſsasagas also came to Acquaint Sir William, that they Intended to wait upon him to his House, where they had something to to Say to him relative to their Nation. ~

Sir William after having Returned the Chiefs his hearty thanks for the part they had Acted during the Congreſs, and expreſsing his Approbation of the Meſsage which they Intend Sending to the [illegible] Nations, told them, and the Canada Confederacy, Miſsasagas &c that he Intended also Sending them Some Belts which Should Coincide with theirs in a great Measure. — then told the Canada Indians and Miſsasagas &c that he would be glad to See them at his House as he had Something particular to Say to them. — Then Sir William Ordered Provisions for all the Nations on their Journey home, and after parting with them in the most friendly manner, Sett off that Morning for his Own Seat Accompanied by above One hundred and fifty Indians &c and followed by Several other Parties, on the private Affairs of their respective Nations. ~

The foregoing is a true Copy Examin'd by me

Richd. Shuckburgh Secry. for
Indn. affrs.

Proceedings at a Treaty
with the Six Nations
&other Indians at the
German Flatts in
July 1770

In Sr William Johnson's
No 14 of the 14th Augt 1770

Pennsylvania, 1769.

At a Council, held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 18th of July, 1769.

Present,

The Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire, President
Joseph Turner   Thomas Cadwallader }
Richard Peters   James Tilghman } Esquires

Colonel Francis, having Yesterday come to Town from the Forks of Susquehanna, and brought the disagreeable News that on the   Day of   , an Indian Man, called young Seneca George, was unfortunately Shot, on the West side of Susquehanna, a few Miles below Middle Creek, attended at the Board, by the desire of the President, and acquainted them, that He, with some other Persons, had apprehended one Peter Reed, as the Person suspected to have Shot the said Indian, and brought him before James Burd, Esquire, who, after taking the Deposition of the said Colonel Francis, James Burd and William Patterson, committed the said Reed to Lancaster Goal, till further Orders should be given by the Judges of the Supream Court: And after Colonel Francis had related the several Particulars respecting the Killing of the Indian, as set forth in the Deposition, which was sent to the Judges of the Supreme Court, the Board took the Matter into their serious Consideration, and were of Opinion that, a Present of Condolance should be immediately provided, and sent to Old Seneca George, and the other Relations of the Deceased Indian, accompanied with a condoling Meſsage to them from the Government; and that a Letter should be sent by the next Post to Sir William Johnson to inform him of this unfortunate Accident, that he may acquaint the Indians with it in the most proper Manner.

Mr Peters and Mr Tilghman were appointed to confer with the Speaker of the Aſsembly, on the Occasion, in Order to know whether He, and other Members of the Aſsembly, who were in Town, would engage that the House should pay the Expence of the said Present, and such Charges as might attend the delivery of it.

At a Council, held at Philadelphia, on Wednesday, 19th July, 1769.

Present,

The Honourable James Hamilton, Esquire President
Joseph Turner   Richard Peters }
William Logan   James Tilghman } Esquires

Mr Tilghman and Mr Peters reported that, they had conferred with Mr Fox, on the Subject recommended to them Yesterday, and that

Mr. Fox acquainted them he had consulted several of the Members of Assembly respecting the Present proposed to be made by the Government to the Relations of Young Seneca George; and that they all much approved of the Measure, and made not the least Doubt but the Assembly would chearfully defray the Expence of such Presents as might be thought necessary to be made, as well as the Charges attending the Transportation and Delivery of them.

Whereupon it was agreed that, the following Goods should be sent to Fort Augusta, without Delay, and there delivered to the Indians by Colonel Francis, with a Message to be prepared by Mr. Logan and Mr. Peters; and the Secretary was desired to speak to Mr. Fox, and request he would Order the said Goods to be provided accordingly.

Here follows the List of the Goods. Vizt.

1 Piece of Black Strouds.
1. Ditto of Black half-thicks (or Blue if Black cannot be got)
1. Ditto of Black Striped Duffills.
2. Ditto of Bandanoe Silk Handkerchiefs — dark Coloured
1 Dozen of Shirts, Vizt. 6 Ruffled and 6 Plain
2 Pieces of Gartering, Scarlet, and Blue.
50 lb of Tobacco.
4 Pair of Shoes, and 4 Pair of Buckles
15 Gallons of Rum in 3 Keggs
2 lb of Vermillion
1 dozen of small Brass Kettles
2 Barrels of Pork

It is also agreed that, Flour, and Indian Corn sufficient for the Indians that may come to Augusta, be provided by Colonel Francis, on the Frontiers, or at the Susquehanna

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At a Council, held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 22 of August, 1770.

Present,

The Honourable John Penn, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor &c.

The Honble. James Hamilton, William Logan,
Richard Peters, Lynford Lardner,
Benjamin Chew, James Tilghman, Esquires

A Company of Indians to the Number of 37, including Men, Women, and Children, came to Town on Friday, and to Day five of their principal Men waiting on the Governor they were invited into the Council and on their behalf

Sheanarzowa, a Seneca Indian, made the following Speech to the Governor.

Brother,

I am glad to have an Opportunity of seeing You. — We are of your Brethren that live at Chenango, on the Susquehanna, and We came down to see our Brother to tell him that We have of late had a good deal of Sickness, and are in great Distress. — Our Brothers here have always been kind to Us, and We hope We shall now meet with the same kind Treatment We have always had from You

A String of Wampum.

Brother,

You told Us at the great Treaty, that was held last Fall, that You would keep the Road between Us open and safe, and be good to us, and desired We would Act in the same Manner. — Our Disposition We assure you is not changed towards You: it is still the same as ever, and We hope You are likewise of the same good Temper towards Us. We find what you told Us then to be true, for We have come here without any Molestation. The Way has not a Stick in it, but all is free and open, and our Journey has been safe

Brother,

In former Times all this Country belonged to the Indians; now it is otherwise. You have a large Share of it, and I am glad to find You carry on a good Trade with Us, and We live together in Peace and Love. This is just as you promised it should be at the last Treaty.

A String

Brother,

I hope you will now pay a particular Regard to what I am going to say. — We are come here from a great way off, and are much fatigued. There are some of the six Nations where we live, and I am come at their Instance, as well as from the other Indians that are at Chenango; and I hope you will listen to me in their behalf.

You see our Condition. We are very poor and ragged. We have not had a good Hunting Season. We have been very Sick and are in Distress. Have Pity on Us, and give us a little Cloathing. We are almost Naked.

A String

Mr. Peters was desired to acquaint the Speaker of the House with this Application, and ask him to provide what should be thought proper to be given on the Occasion

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Memorandum, Thursday, the 24th of August, 1769.

Mr. Fox having, at the Instance of the Governor, provided a present for the Indians, it was this Day delivered to them; and the Governor, at the same Time, spoke to them as follows.

Brethren,

I have considered what You said to me; it is all very agreeable; and I am glad to see You.

A String

Brethren,

You may be aſsured We shall always observe to do whatever We promise in our Treaties. The People of this Province were always kind to their Indian Brethren; and will continue to be kind to them, as long as the Indians, on their Side, behave in a friendly, quiet, and good Manner.

A String

Brethren,

I thought that the Country about Chenango was a good hunting Country; and that You might get Fish in Plenty; and that all sorts of Game abounded there. We are sorry that you tell Us of your diſtreſs and Poor Condition; and, in consideration thereof, We have provided, (though with some difficulty, as there are now scarce any Indian Goods in Town) a few Things for you; which I desire your acceptance of, as a Testimony of the Love the good People of this Province bear to their Indian Brethren.

Memorandum, Thursday the 24th of August, 1769.

The Governor having received further Intelligence respecting the Determination of the Connecticut People to continue to keep Poſseſsion of the Wyoming Lands, thought proper to dispatch by Expreſs the following Letters and Instructions to Colonel Francis, at Fort Augusta, Mr. Charles Stewart, Mr. Amos Ogden, and Mr. John Jennings, Sheriff of Northampton County.

A Letter from the Governor to Colonel Francis.

Philadelphia, the 24th of August, 1769.

Sir,

As the New England Men have not thought proper to observe their Agreement made at Easton, but soon determined to retain their unlawful Poſseſsions at Wyoming, I must desire you to exert your Influence in raising as good a Party as you can in Order to aſsist the Sheriff of Northampton in executing the King's Writ on the New England People at Wyoming who were indicted at Easton, and I hope you will find the People in your Neighbourhood as willing to embark in the Affair as they have heretofore shewn themselves. When you can know what Number you can procure, you will send an Expreſs to Wyoming, informing Mr. Stewart or Mr. Ogden of it, that they may transmit the Account to the Sheriff of Northampton, and fix a Time of meeting him at Wyoming, in which you will take Care to allow Time enough.

I send you £ , to defray the Expence of the Expedition.

M.

Dear Sir Johnson Hall, August 22d. 1770

My Situation as mentioned in my last Surrounded by some Hundreds of Indians who followed me to this place on the private Affairs of Each Nation, & a Severe Indisposition in my Family rendered it impossible for me to transmit the Proceedings herewith inclosed untill this time. — They contain the whole of the Transactions at the publick Conferences, tho as I have formerly observed to You, that is a verry small part of the Debates Arguments & Discourses at the private Conferences where the principal Subjects are first agitated & Determined upon. — My concern at being reduced to the disagreeable Alternative of either approving in his Majestys name of ye. War proposed, or risquing the Publick Safety by a Disapprobation of sd. was much further encreased on my Arrival at the German Flats upon finding that they had resolved in consequence of their Alliance with us, and of the Assistance they had formerly afforded to make a publick requisition of Men, Arms, and Ammunition for the Support of the War, not from any real want of our Aid, but meerly to put our Friendship to the Test, That in case our Answer should be unfavourable or evasive their Suspicions might be confirmed & their Resentment wear the appearance of Justice. — The Disaffected and Designing amongst them had represented this in so reasonable a light to the rest, that they had verry nigh effected their purpose, and would most certainly have Succeeded but for the pains I took & the extraordinary good behaviour of Some of the Cheifs, thro whose endeavours Joined to my own, I have at last prevailed that after a further Consideration of the Matter, they will send Messages to the Nations to the Southward and wait the Result. —

His Excellency
General Gage —

Sir

This was the best thing I could think of for effect, under ye Circumstances that I found myself in, and I hope you will approve of it.— I then agreable to his Majestys Orders proceeded to the Ratification of the Fort Stanwix Treaty. After which they stated their Grievances on the Score of Trade, the Behaviour of the Frontier Inhabitants & many other Matters of an Inferior nature, some of which are contained in the Sheets herewith inclosed & others, being spoken of at private Meetings were too Voluminous to be inserted.— With respect to the Treatment they complain of on the Frontiers I need say nothing in Addition to what I have formerly mentioned, for the conduct of our settlers to them is much the same, & since my return Home, I have an Account from Mr. Croghan at Fort Pitt, that two Indians were lately murdered in that Neighbourhood.— I observed in Publick to the Whole, but particularly in private to the Cheifs, that this was often occasioned by their bad behaviour, but altho that is sometimes the Case, I am very certain that it is often merely thro the Licentiousness of the Frontier Settlers, whose hatred & Ill timed Resentment are not easily to be removed, and I wish they may not smart for it.— The Affairs of Trade I can say as little about, for there is no prospect of the Colonies Adopting any one certain well digested Plan, or indeed any that will be attended with the necessary Expence, which the Indians consider as a Willfull Neglect, arising from our Contempt & aversion for them, but the great Scarcity of Goods for some time past, & the disapointment of such Numbers as have of late brought down peltry &c was a very disagreable Circumstance, more especially as they were told by Shopkeepers & Traders that it was the fault of the Crown, than which nothing could have a more dangerous Tendency, This which I was desireous to remove at all events, together with the peculiar Notice I found myself obliged to take of those Cheifs who had acted well, the very great Number of the Indians, & the extravagant prices of most Articles from ye genl. failure of the Crops this Year, has made the Expences of the Treaty to Exceed my Expectations, but when all these points are thoroughly considered, I believe it cannot be deemed Extraordinary, & I very well know that to lessen it, I took all possible pains, & sat up for several whole Nights in Conference to expedite the Affair as their daily maintenance amounted to a large sum. —

I shall not at present take up more of your time with a repetition of any other Matters of a Subordinate nature, only to observe that thro the measures I pursued, supported by the good Conduct & Influence of the best disposed amongst the Chiefs, I have removed some very unfavourable Impressions, diverted them from a very dangerous & disagreeable requisition, & disposed them to judge more favourably of the friendship & disposition of Governt., but tho it is practicable & highly necessary to continue them in this belief, yet I fear it depends on too many Circumstances to be duely attended to, All which I have touched upon in my letter to Lord Hillsborough, which accompanies a Copy of the Proceedings. —

I have good expectations that the Matters settled, and Resolutions entered into at this Treaty will prove a severe Blow to the ill disposed who are now busied at the great Congress now holding at the Sioto plains, in endeavouring to alienate the Affections of the Six Nations &ca. & to form dangerous Confederacy concerning all which I have taken measures to be early apprized of their Determinations. —

As I have been obliged to advance a good deal of Cash on Acct. of the Expences lately incurred, wh. his Majesty has been pleased to allow me to apply to you for, I therefore now inclose you the Acct. of Expences which attended the late Congress apart, the payment of which I am necessitated to request your Warrant for as soon as convenient. — & that you will believe me to be with the most perfect Esteem,

Dear Sir,

Your most Obedient,
& Affectionate, Humble Servant,
W. Johnson

Aug: 28 · 1770

Received Sept. 8th

Incloſing Proceedings near
the German Flatts in July 1770
with the Six Nations Indians
of Canada & Dep:ts from the
Cherokees. —

Expences of 1st Congreſs — —

anſwered —

Proceedings at a Treaty with the Six Nations, the Indians of Canada, the Several Dependant Tribes, and the Deputies from the Cherokee Nation, Held at the upper Settlements near the German Flatts in July 1770. by Sir William Johnson Baronet. —

On Sunday the 15th. of July 1770 Sir William Johnson Accompanied with Collonel Daniel Claus, Colonel Guy Johnson, Depy. Agents, Richard Shuckburgh Esqr. Secretary for Indian Affairs, and Several Other Gentlemen from the neighbouring Settlements, Set out from Johnson Hall for the German Flatts, and on Monday the 16th. Arrived at the place for Holding the Treaty, where were Assembled about 1600 Indians, and many more yet Expected. — At 2 P.M the Speaker of the Six Nations came to Sir William's Quarters to be Informed when they Should make their first Visit, and whether they Should come in a body, or each Nation Seperately, to which he answered, that as the House in which he resided, was too Small to Admit them, he would Cause a large Arbour to be made in the Field, where he would Receive them all the next Morning. — At 6 P.M 80 Indians more Arrived from from Onoghquagey, and Other Villages on the Branch of the

Susquahanna, the Chiefs of whom waited on Sir William, who after the usual Ceremonys, Ordered them Provisions, & and sent them to their Quarters. —— In the Evening 16 Algonkins arrived, who Informed Sir William that they had left Seven Canoes of Chipeweighs near Oswego, on their way to the Congreſs.

Tuesday 17th — The Burnt, Chief of Onondaga, with the Speaker of that Nation waited on Sir William early in the morning, and Acquainted him that their Head Warrior (Diaguanda had refused to attend to Buſineſs, & Encampd with another Nation, which gave them all Concern, & would greatly Interrupt their Proceedings; but as he was Sir William's particular friend, and much under his Influence, hoped that he would make use of it to persuade him to Return to them. —— Sir William gave them a Gracious Answer, and Aſsured them that he would use his Influence to that End. —— Sir William accordingly Sent for Diaguanda, and after some Diſcourse at length persuaded him to Join and Aſsist his Nation in Council, for which he Received their Sincere Thanks. —— The Indians not being al aſsembled as yet, Sir William Received Visits from the Chiefs, and Held several Private Meetings with the Principal Men of each Nation, from whom he received much usefull, and Interesting Information respecting the Sentiments, and present Disposition of the Indians. —

In the Evening the Old Sachems of Onoghquagey came to Sir William's Quarters to Acquaint him of Thomas Kings (One of their Chiefs) having some days ago unfortunately killed a Young Tuscorora, for which he was so much Concerned, that he determined to return the next Day to the Village where he committed the Murder, and Submit himſelf to the Will of the Friends of the Deceased. — Sir William told them that he was extremely Sorry for the Death of their friend, deſiring them to tell Thomas King, that he Should talk with him On that Subject, and Contribute his Endeavors that it might be Amicably Accomodated.

Wednesday July the 18th 1770.

At a Congreſs Held at the German Flatts.

Pres.t The Honoble Sir William Johnson Bar.t Super-Intend.t
Coll.o Daniel Claus & Coll.o Guy Johnson — Dep.ty Agents
Richard Shuckburgh Esq.r — Secr.y for Indian Affairs
John Butler Esq.r — Interpreter
Cap.t Norman McLeod of the late 80th Regim.t
Cap.t Mich.l Byrne —
Hanjost Harkemer Esq.r And sev.l Other Gent.n, and Inhabitants from the Settlements with the following Nations of Indians — viz.

Six Nations.

Mohawks of the three Villages	209	Oneidas	232
Onondagas	250	Cayugas	269
Senecas	354	Tuſcororas	132

Their Dependants

Onoghquageys	124	Ganughsraageys	115
Nanticokes and		Conoys	193
Tuteloes			78

From Canada

Cagnawageys and the Indians of St. Regis	78	Ganaghsadagas	11
		Nipisinks	7
Algonkins	8	River Indians	2
Abenaquis of St. Francis	2		
Hurons of Lorello	2		

The Deputies from the Cherokee Nation — — — 7
An Ottawa Chief Called Okayoweſs from Michili=
=macinac — These were Joined by 26 Miſsasagas & 220 Inds.
of the Sevn. Nations during the Treaty, Amounting in the whole to 2330 Inds.

Being all Seated Saghtegḣroana a Chief of St. Regis Stood up and Sayd. That agreeable to the Summons they had Received, there were now Aſsembled the Chiefs of the Seven Nations of Canada in Order to Attend the Congreſs. Then Returned the String of Invitation.

Then Conoghquiason a Chief of Oneida Stood up on behalf of the Six Nations, and Said

Brother Warraghiyagey.

We are very happy to See you here this day at our particular Request. You know, Brother, that when the Deputies who are now here from the Cherokee Nation, first came to Our Fire place at Onondaga, to request on behalf of their Nation, that we Should Join them in making War upon the troublesome People who were their Enemies, and from whom Our selves have Received several Insults, as it was an Affair of Importance which Required much Deliberation, though Inclined to agree to their Deſires, yet as None of our Confederacy from Canada were present, and as We had Given you Aſsurances that we Should not Enter into any Engagements without your Concurrence and Approbation, we thought it most fitting to send Depu=ties to you, Requesting you would Aſsemble the Whole of our Confederacy, that we might Conferr together thereon. —
Brother we are very thankfull that you have Complied with Our Request, as People in Alliance Should do, and we are now

to

to Acquaint you that agreeable to the Belts and Meſsages sent amongst us, we are all now met from Ohio to Canada to a Considerable Number, And I do now On Behalf of all those Nations here Aſsembled take you by the hand, Sincerely Wellcoming you to this place, where We have kindled up a fire, and where I hope the Busineſs we meet upon, will go on to our mutual Satisfaction. — Gave three Strings —

Then after Acquainting the Indians of the Death of an Oneida Chief since they left their Village, he proceeded.

Brother. —

Agreeable to the antient Custom Established by our wise Forefathers, that when ever we Meet, we should mutually Condole each Other for our Loſses, and as We Suppose you have doubtleſs Sustained Some since our last Interview, We do now agreeable to this laudable practice Condole with you for the Same, We Open your Eyes that you may look chearfully, We Open y.^r Ears that you may hear us, and clear your throat that you may Speak freely to us; — We likewise Gather the Bones of the deceased of your People, and Bury them deep, carefully Covering the Grave from your Sight; And we Once more kindle the Fire at this place, and Sweep Out all Dust from the Council Chamber that Nothing may Obstruct us in Our busineſs. — 3 Strings

Then Thomas King on behalf of the Warriors of the Six Nations arose, and Said —

Brother. —

I take this Opportunity on behalf of all the Warriors of the Six Nations, and their Confederates now Aſsembled & of the Cherokee Deputies to let you know that we are not well pleased with Our Sachems for neglecting to

Acquaint

to Acquaint us with what they purposed to Say this Morning, and for not giving you Our particular thanks for Calling and Meeting us this Day; as the Occasion of this Assembly is principally On our Accounts; upon a Matter in which, we, as Warriors are Particularly Interested; and they well know it, for, there are the Men (pointing) to the Cherokee Deputies) whose Business they all know is Chiefly to us the Warriors to Invite us to Engage against their troublesome Neighbours, with whose Conduct We are likewise much Dissatisfied; I Do therefore with this Belt, at the Desire, and On the part of all the Warriors here Assembled from Canada to Ohio, and of the Cherokee Deputies take you now by the hand in the most friendly manner, kindly thanking you for Complying with our Request in calling us together, and Giving you a most hearty Wellcome to this Place where we are all happy to find that you are Arrived in Safety.—

A Belt of 5 Rows—

Then Tagawara, an Oneida Chief stood up on the part of Sir William Johnson & first addressed the Indians of Canada as follows.—

Brothers of the seven Nations of Canada.—

I am very Glad to See you all here this Day agreable to Summons. It is a proof of your Attention to the Affairs of our Confederacy, & I Sincerely Wellcome you upon the Occasion—

Then addressing the rest, and Repeating what Conoquieson Said, he proceeded— Brothers—, I am glad to See you All this day in Health, and am well pleased that in Consequence of the Circumstances you mention, you have now brought thither the Chiefs of so many Nations, and Confederate Tribes, because by that means, none can plead Ignorance of our Transactions, and the Busineſs will go on to the satisfaction of you all. I do therefore give thanks to Providence for permitting us to meet this Day, & Cordially take you all by the hand, bidding you a hearty Wellcome to this place.

3 Strings.

Brothers.

As a proof of my Regard for the wise Institution of your Ancestors, and from the Information I have received of the Loſses you have Sustained since Our last Meeting, I do now on the part of his Majesty the King of Great Brittain Sincerely Condole with you on this Melancholy Occasion; I Open your Eyes that you may once more look with Chearfulneſs, and your Ears, that you may hear distinctly, and I Clear the Paſsages to your heart, that you may Speak freely its real Sentiments. — I do also Gather the Bones of your Dead, and I bury them in a Deep Pit, carefully Covering them from your Sight, and I also Sweep, and Cleanse your Council Chamber, that we may Meet therein, and Proceed to Busineſs without Interruption. — Gave three Strings.

Then after Repeating the Speech of Thomas King he addreſsed the Warriors, and Cherokees as followes. —

Brothers.

I am much Obliged to you in that you have Expreſsed so much Desire to thank me Particularly on your parts. — I Entertain a high Opinion, and Regard for you all, and by this Belt, I now take you all by the hand in the most friendly manner, Giving you a very kind, and friendly Wellcome to this place, wishing that you may allways Conduct yourselves with Prudence & Attention to the true Interest of your respective Nations.

A Belt of Six Rows.

Then Addreſsing the Whole, he Said

Brothers of the Several Nations here Aſsembled.

I am very Glad that We have now so far prepared for Busineſs by going through the usual Forms to mutual Satisfaction, and shall be ready to Enter on the Important Affair for which we are Aſsembled, on the Arrival of the rest of your People who are Hourly Expected,

Then Sir William Orderd Pipes, and Tobacco to be Distributed amongst them, and Recommended it to the Warriors, that as he was Using his Utmost Endeavors that they Should be Supplied with what Neceſsarys they wanted, he Expected they would behave with Order, and Decorum, that they would avoid Liquor, and Committ no Violence on any of the Property of the Inhabitants. Then Adjourned

In the Afternoon Sir William held Several private Meetings with the Chiefs in Order to Inform himself as to their Sentiments & Resolutions at that time. — In the Evening Several of the Mohawks arrived, and reported that the rest would Join them early to morrow. At night Sir William Called together a Sachem, and Head Warrior from each of the principal Nations, with whom he held a Conference until the night was far Advanced. Of those there were some who were much to be Depended On for their Integrity, from whom, (amongst Other Matters of much Importance to those previous to the Congreſs) he learned that the Warriors, were for the much greater part, Obstinately bent

[illegible]

[illegible] concerning the Remainders of the Lands

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Bent on War with the Southern Indians, that great Part of the of the Sachems, Convinced by the Arguments Sir William had made use of at private Conferences, would have gladly declined it, and Seemed Diſposed to ſend the Cherokee Deputies back, after renewing the late Treatys, and Giving them further Aſsurances of their Friendſhip for that Nation, but that they very much doubted whether the Warriors could be perſuaded thereto, as they were much Exaſperated at the Insults which some of the Confederacy received from the Indians of Wabash &c. and that in consequence of the treatment the English had received from these Nations, the Warriors Expected, not only their Concurrence, but their Aid, and Aſsistance to carry it on in like manner as they had formerly Aſsisted the English. —— Sir William, farther learned, that there were some Other very Interesting points to be Spoken upon at the Congreſs, On all which he had much Conversation with those present, Using his Utmost Endeavors to procure a favorable Iſsue to the Congreſs, and Endeavoring all in his power to avoid their making any Requisition of Aid from the English, should it so happen that a War must take place.

Thursday July the 19th 1770

Early in the Morning the Remainder of the Mohocks Arrived.

The Chiefs of the Canada Indians, in consequence of the Murder of three of the Six Nations formerly at Oſwegatchy on which they had never Condoled, Aſsembled at Sir Williams Quarters and after Calling together the rest of the Indians, proceeded to the Bower, where the Seven Nations of Canada after premising the Occasion of their Meeting then, and that they could not with Propriety Unite in Measures untill they had Obeyed the Institutions of their Ancestors, by performing in the fullest manner the Ceremony of Condolence for these Loſses & giving the neceſsary Belts &c. to the Six Nations on that Occasion: this having taken up the greatest part of the Forenoon, the Chiefs of the Six Nations Informed them that they would Consider of an Answer, and accordingly withdrew to a private Council place to deliberate thereupon. —

About Noon four Canoes with 26 Miſsiſsagaes from the North side of Lake Ontario came to Camp to attend the Congreſs. —

Sir William having Judged it highly neceſsary as well from the temper of the Indians, the Greatneſs of their Numbers, and the Disorders they are Liable to Committ, when in Liquor, Advised the Magistrates to give Notice to the Traders &c. by no means to Sell them any until the Congreſs was Ended, and it was acordingly done previous to his Arrival, but having this day received Information that Some Traders &c. had actualy sold them a Keg of Rum, and Others had resolved to follow ~~their~~ his Example, which greatly alarmed the Inhabitants and Occasioned their Applications to him to Check it, he Iſsued a Notification under his hand, and Seal, which he sent throughout the whole Settlement by a Peace Officer strictly forbidding them at their Peril to Sell to any Indians, or for their use any Spirituous Liquors during the Congreſs, and untill the Indians remov'd, when they might Sell it to them any where beyond the Settlements, the Apprehensions of the Inhabitants being very great, as from the temper Shewn by many of the Warriors, they had reason to dread that neither their Property, or Persons would be Secure Should they get Liquor amongst them. —

The Six Nations after some time Spent in Council returned to the publick Council place, and after returning thanks to the Indians of Canada, performed the Ceremony of Condolance, & gave the usual Belts to them in return. —

In the Afternoon the Indians being in readineſs waited on Sir William when the future proceedings of the day being regulated and resolved upon, they proceeded to the Bower, where Abraham Chief of the Mohawks Acquainted the rest with the Buſineſs then to be Entred upon. after which Teyawarunte Speaker of the Six Nations, did on behalf of Sir William Johnson perform the whole Ceremony of Condolance for a Mohawk Chief lately Dead, a Cayuga killed by One of that Nation, and a Seneca Chief lately Drowned, and delivered the several Belts for the Sev^l. purposes usual on such Occasions, Covering the Graves with a black Belt, they answering with a Yo-hah Customary at Condolances. — The Indians after being a Short time in Consultation, Addreſsed Sir William by Conoquieson their Speaker, and after repeating all that he had Said to them, they returned the Ceremony of Condolance in like manner, which Ended, the Chiefs all shook hands with Sir William, and the rest of the Gentlemen, returning him many thanks for having made their Minds easy. — Then Sir William arose and told them that he was happy to find that every thing was so far settled to mutual Satisfaction; that there now Only remained to attend to the principal Buſineſs for which they aſsembled; to that End, he recommended it to them to preserve Sobriety, and good Order in their Encampments, and to be in readineſs to attend on the morning followg when he Should make them a Speech. —— Then the Cayuga Chief arose, and Condoled for a Murder of a Tuscarora, committed a few days before by Thomas King, and Covered the Grave &ca, after wch Adjourned —

The Miſsasagaes from N. Side of Lake Ontario Arrived at Sir William's Quarters, and after the usual Salutations, told him, that being at Oswego with Others of their Nation, they who were for the most part the principal men, thought proper to attend him, on hearing that he had Opened a Congreſs with their Brethren; — that for that purpose they were come, and would willingly attend in Council during the Congreſs. — Sir William, after Expreſsing his Satisfaction at seeing them, and Bidding them Wellcome, told them that he could have no Objection to their being present, but, that on the contrary, he was allways glad of every Opportunity of making his Transactions publick with all well Disposed Indians. —

This night, the Boats having On Board the Present for the Indians Arrived after a tedious Paſsage Occasioned by the lowneſs of the water at this Season. —

At a Congreſs —

Friday – July the 19th 1770 –

At a Congreſs Held at the German Flatts –

Present –

The Honorable Sir William Johnson Bart. Super Intendant

Coll. Daniel Claus } – Depy. Agents –
Coll. Guy Johnson }
Richard Shuckburgh Esqr. – Secy. –
John Butler Esqr. — Interpreter –
Capt. Norman McLeod of the late 80th Regimt.
Coll. Hanyst. Harkemer } Esqrs. Justices of the Peace –
Rudolph Shomaker – }
Capt. Michael Byrne –, with the Several Nations
of Indians before mentioned –, –

Being all Seated &c. –

Being all Seated, Sir William Addreſsed them as follows. —

Brothers of the Six Nations, of the Seven Nations of Canada, of the Sev.l Dependant Tribes, and all Others here aſsembled Sachems, Chiefs, and Warriors. —

I Desire that you will carefully attend to the Words I have now to Say to you, it being on matters of great Importance to you all. — Our Brothers of the Six Nations sent Meſsengers to me last Fall from their great Council Fire at Onondaga Accompanied by the Cherokee Deputies here present, to Acquaint me that these Deputies were Charged (as Ambaſsadors from their Nation) with Belts, Meſsages, and a Pipe to Strengthen their Alliance, and Sollicit the Aid of the Six Nations against the Piankeshaws, Wawaightonos, and Others, as a People troublesome, and Enemys to both; On which the Six Nations would not Determine, untill agreeable to their Engagements, they had first in publick Congreſs had my Sentiments, and Concurrence thereon. —— At the Earnest Sollicitation of the Six Nation Meſsengers, and the Cherokee Depts, Seconded by the Representations of Thomas King, who had accompanied them from the Cherokee Country, and the many, and since repeated Requests of the Six Nations, I, after consulting the Kings General, Laid the Same before his Majesty, who has through my Representations been Graciously pleased to Empower me to Meet you On this Occasion, where I am ready to hear your Sentiments, and Give you my Advice, after which I shall Speak to you upon your late Treaty, which the King has Impowered me to Ratify, and also to Attend to any Other publick Affairs that may Occurr; I therefore Recommend it to you in the Course of this Busineſs to pay the most serious

Regard to what I have to Offer, and to Give me in Answer the Truth, the Words of your Heart. —

A Belt 11 Rows. —

Brothers. —

As many of the Chiefs allready know much of my Sentiments concerning the Embaſsy from the Cherokees, I think it now more Particularly Neceſsary to Addreſs you the Warriors thereupon.

In the first Place, you Should Consider, that War Should never be carried on with any Nation without very Sufficient Reasons, & until all other Measures have proved Ineffectual; For a Desire on every slender Pretence to make War, will undoubtedly cause many of your friends to be Jealous of you, and may Occasion the forming a Power=full Confederacy On the Part of the Enemy, which allthough you may be able to withstand, will nevertheleſs so far Engage the greatest part of your Young Men, that Hunting, and Trade, which are the Bleſsings Attendants On the Peace you now Enjoy, must be greatly, if not totally neglected. the Want of this you must all feel, and this is not the Only loſs you must Sustain in any War with a Numerous People. —

In the next Place those Nations against whom it is Said you are Disposed to Carry your Arms, have been Considered as friends in Alliance with you; And though from their Situation, and most probably from the Evil Councils of the French, they have been induced to do Some Mischief, you Should Still consider, that in Attacking them, you Weaken your Selves. This is bad Policy, as the breach is not so Irrepairable, but that through proper Negotiations, a mutual good Understanding may be Effected between You, Whereas War like

Warlike People who have once Quarrelled, are not easily brought to a Strict Union afterwards. —— I have already Expressed my thoughts so candidly to the Chiefs, that I now Confine myself to these principal Arguments, to which I shall add one more that Ought to be of the greatest Weight with you, and that is the Sentim.ᵗ of the great King your Father, and of his Subjects, which will also, I trust, Convince you, that they are your real friends, and teach you to regard them Accordingly. —— Another King, another People, indeed, any People who had not an Esteem for the Indians, would be glad of this Occasion to Stir you up to War, because War would weaken both you, and your Adversarys. That this is not the Case, with us, you must plainly Discern; for the King Esteems you, and wishes to See you live happily, and at Peace with all your Neighbours - these are likewise the Wishes of all his Subjects, they know that is for your Interest, and they cannot Give you a Stronger Demonstration of their friendship, at the Same time that they lay you under no Restraint in this particular, beyond what your Own reason must approve of. —— Consider this Cooly, and Deliberately, and Give me in Answer the real Sentiments of your hearts. —

A Belt of 9 Rows —

Sir William then Spoke to the Cherokee Deputies, cautioned them strictly to Observe the Instructions they had received from their Chiefs, without Addition, or Alteration, as it might be of bad Consequence Should they say any thing to the Northern Indians beyond what they had been Authorized, All which they assured him they would Strictly Observe. —

To this

To this Speech the Indians, after sometime Spent in Consultation, answered, that they had heard with Attention all that Sir William had said to them — that they were very thankfull to him for the Regard he had Expreſsed for their Interests — that their Chiefs would aſsemble early in the Morning, and Deliberate with as much Expedition as such a Weighty Affair would Admit of, on a proper Answer, wch they would deliver to him so soon as they were Agreed in Sentiments. —

Then Adjourned —

Saturday July the 20th. —

In the Morning the Sachems, & Chief Warriors of both the Confederacys, or Leagues of the Six Nations, and the rest met in their Encampments to take Sir William's Speech into Consideration, where they Spent the whole Day in Deliberation without being able to come to a Conclusion. — In the mean time, Sir William finding that, (Notwithstanding all his Endeavors) Liquor was still brought amongst the Indians, rode round the Adjacent Settlements to Caution the Traders, and Other Persons not to Sell any. — In the Evening three Chiefs deputed from the Several Nations, Waited on Sir William to Apologize for their not returning an Answer this day as they had purposed, which they Aſsured him was Owing to the Difficulties it met with from the Warriors, who Seemed averse to any thing but War — that the three Principal Branches of the Confederacy, the Mohawks, Onondagas, and Senecas, had at length agreed to an Answer, but that the Rest were not as yet come to any Conclusion. — Sir William Spent some hours in Discourse with these Chiefs, & others whom he sent for, in Order to Expedite their Answer, the neceſsity of which he represented from the Scarcity of Provisions for so great a Number, Owing to the Unfavorable Season, and the Loſs of the Inhabits.

Crops, and Discoursed a longtime with them On the Matters he had Recommended to their Consideration.—

Sunday July the 21st 1770.—

The former part of this day was Spent in private Conferences, as well between the Indians, as with Sir William, and the Chiefs, in Order that they might be thoroughly Satisfied with his Advice, and Unanimous in their Answer.—

Early in the Afternoon they Acquainted Sir William that they were ready to deliver their Answer & accordingly assembled.—

Present as before.—

Being all Seated, the Onondaga Speaker called to the Speakers, and Chiefs of the Rest to approach to the Front near Sir William, in Order to Give in their Answer, which done, they Appointed Abraham Chief of the Mohawks their Speaker who Addressed Sir William as follows.—

Brother.—

The Six Nations, and their Dependants from Ohio to Canada have now Assembled, after two Days Spent in deliberation to deliver you their Answer to your Speech.— then repeated what Sir William had Said on his first Belt, and Added, now, Brothr.— We have according to your Advice taken your Discourse into due Consideration.—

A Belt 11 Rows.—

Brother.—

You desired that we Should give you an Answer from the Bottom of Our Hearts;— We accordingly met amongst Our selves, & have had many Debates together in Order to bring about what Seemed pleasing to the King, at your Desire. — This took up all our Time, and has prevented us from giving you an Answer sooner. —— He then repeated what Sir William had said on his Second Belt; after which he proceeded as follows. —

Brother —

You have very kindly Signified to us that the King does not Desire to See us at War with Indian Nations; and you have likewise given us your Opinion thereupon, and Shewn us the Disadvantages of it in a very clear light. — Brother, We have Seriously Considered all this, and believing that it is the Kings regard for us that Occasions him to wish us at Peace, & Confiding in your Friendship, which we are Certain has Induced you to give us this Advice, We at length do Agree to the same, and Shall Strictly follow it, Provided We can bring those troublesome Nations to reason, and Submission without War and live peaceably as we do with the Southern Indians: To this End we Shall stay all Hostilities, and make use of our Younger Brothers the Shawanese, who live near them, to Convince them of their Folly, and Presumption; and, if this has a Due Effect, and that these Nations will Join heartily in promoting Peace, and Abiding by their antient Agreements, we Shall be well pleased, and Shall not make War upon them. — This, Brother, you may be assured, is the Determined Resolution of us all, and therefore you may Depend upon it, that we Shall Observe what we have Said to you. — A Belt 10 Rows. —

Brothr. if

Brother,

We have Endeavourd as much as poſsible hitherto to keep our People sober, and Quiet: We are very sensible, that it would Overset all Buſineſs if Our People got Liquor; for as our Young Men are with ~~with~~ Difficulty kept within Bounds, when Sober, it is certainly Impoſsible to do any thing with them when Drunk. We therefore now Aſsure you, that it is Our Resolution during the Course of this Treaty to keep our Selves Sober; and should any Kegs of Liquor be brought amongst us by the Traders, we will on Discovery Stave them to pieces, & not as formerly forbid the Sale of them. —

Gave three Strings

Brother,

We have now anſwered you sincerely, & from our Hearts on One part of the Buſineſs, which has Occasioned our present Meeting, and we hope that it will be agreeable to you, and are ready to proceed on the rest.

They then conferred for some time in private after which Sir William Addreſsed them

Brothers, the Six Nations, & Others here Aſsembled

I have attended seriously to your Anſwer concerning the War, you proposed to Engage in. I have as well before, as during the Course of Our Proceedings here, said so much to you on the Subject, that I perswaded myself that you would be Convinced, and am Glad to find that you are so; And I know that it must appear as a Striking Proof of his Majesty's Humanity & regard for you all, and that you may easily perceive that I have had no

other

other Motive in Recommending it to you, than my Friendship, and ſincere Wishes for your Prosperity. — I know that there are some Partys of yours that are now gone to the Southward; As this is not Consistant with the Pacific Sentiments you have Expreſsed for the Southern Indians, I think they should be recalled; And when you send to the Shawanese for the Purposes you have mentioned, I Recommend it to you to make choice of wise Deputies, good Men, who will faithfully Execute the Trust you repose in them, ſincerely wishing for your own sakes, that you may faithfully Abide by the Resolutions, you have now Expreſsed to me. —

Brothers —

I am very glad that you have Determined to let no Rum come amongst you, as that Liquor will not only Obstruct Buſineſs, but may be productive of the most Dangerous Consequences. — You See, and know the Pains that I have taken to prevent it, and I hope you will do the like on your Parts agreeable to your Promise —

Brothers —

The King, my Master, having received all the Papers, and Proceedings relative to the great Treaty at Fort-Stanwix, together with the Deed of Ceſsion, which you then Executed to him, he laid them before his Council of great Men, and after considering the whole of it, has Signified to me, (what I hope will be deemed a further Instance of his Paternal Goodneſs) that he did not require the Land so far to the Southward, if it was of the least Inconvenience to his Children, whose Interests he has so much at heart; he has at length in Compliance with your own Desires, as transmitted by me, and the publick Grant that you made, Impowered me to Ratify the same by Letter which I have received from the Lord who is One of his Majesty's Secretarys (holding the letter in his hands) which I now purpose to do. — You all know the Deed of Ceſsion of which this (Shewing a Copy) is a true Copy; you all know that it was Executed in a publick meeting of the greatest Number of Indians that has ever Aſsembled within the time of our remembrance, and that all who had any Pretensions, were Duely Summoned to it. — You all remember the great, and Valuable Present you received upon that Occasion, exceeding any thing that you had ever Seen. — Yet notwithstanding all this, I find that there are Some of your Dependants, who live by your Toleration, and who never had any Title to the Soil, that talk as if they were Dissatisfied with your Act, or doubted your Authority. It is therefore Incumbent on you to See into, and make diligent Enquiry about it, and to Shew those People, if any Such there are, their folly. — This I Expect you will do without Delay, as a Testimony of your Gratitude to the King, and Justice to yourselves; and I Expect that upon this Occasion, you will make Choice of honest, Wise men, who will not deviate from their Instructions, but faithfully Execute, what you direct them. Fully persuaded, that you will do this, and that you are resolved to Abide for ever faithfully by your Engagements entred into at that time. I do now by Virtue of the Power to me given in the Name, and on the behalf of his Britannick Majesty, Ratify, and Confirm the whole of the Treaty made at Fort Stanwix in 1768, and also the Deed of Ceſsion to the King then Executed (Except what relates to the Private Grants which his Majesty will Consider of,) & I do declare that the same is Ratifyed accordingly. —

A Belt. —

the Ind.s

The Indians in Answer Expressed their Satisfaction at what Sir William had Said, to which as it was late, they deferred giving an Answer until the next Day. — Then Adjourned. —

At night Sir William had a Conference with a principal Sachem, and Warrior of each Nation, when he Spoke with them On the Subjects for the Meeting to Morrow. — he found, that besides some Grievances, which were to be the Subject of the future Proceedings, the Indians were Suspicious that the English Intended totally to Neglect, and disregard them, and that this Opinion daily gained Ground amongst the Sevd. Nations. — the Chiefs spoke with much Warmth On the reduced State of those living under our Arm, as they called it, namely the Mohocks, and Others living among Our Settlements, who they remarked had been very useful to us, and were now neglected greatly by the English. the Mohawks in particular (Supported by the rest) Signified their desire to Speak in publick, that his Majesty would take their Case into Consideration, and allow them a Missionary, Observing that they, and their Fathers had been Christianized, and attended for many Years by Ministers of the Church of England, — that a former King had built them a Church, and taken much Care of them, but that they have been now many years without an English Clergyman, which gave them great Concern. — Sir William foreseeing that these, and many Other private Matters of a private Nature, would, if Spoken in publick, furnish part of the Confederacy with Subjects for disagreeable Reflections, represented to them, that there would be no Occasion to bring Matters before the rest of the Nations in which they were not particularly Concerned, as he would lay them before his Majesty, from whose generous Sentiments, and pious

Regard for their future Welfare, they might Expect that they would be attended to.—

The Sachems, and Chiefs of Canada Indians desired a Conference in publick with Sir William, and being assembled their Speaker Addressed him—

Monday July 22d—

Brother—

We have desired to Speak to you in this publick Manner, on an Affair which Concerns our selves, and which has Occasioned great Uneasiness amongst us.— Brother— You know us for many Years,— We knew you, and Esteemed your Character, when we were in the Arms of the French, and when you came down with the Army to Montreal ten Years agoe. You then Spoke to us, Gave us good Words, & by the Order of the General gave us Solemn Assurances, that if We did not Assist the French, but permitted you to descend the River without Interruption, we should be placed amongst the Number of your friends, and Enjoy our Rights & Possessions, and the free Exercise of Our Religion for ever.— This we Believed, for we knew your Character, and had a Confidence in you, and accordingly agreed to your Request, and have ever since behaved in such a Manner as to Demonstrate our Fidelity, and Attachment to the English.—

Brother

You allways give us good Words, and have shewn your self our friend. It is therefore with Concern we tell you our Grievances at this time Occasioned by Ill disposed People who give disturbance in Several Quarters. —— Brother,— You are not Ignorant that there are many men, of whom we have before Complained, who are no longer Our friends, and either guided by Interest, or perhaps from

Resentmt

[illegible]

[illegible] before [illegible], a Notary Public [illegible]

[illegible]

Resentment, on finding Our Attachment to the English, endeavor to alter the minds of all the great Men who have been sent to Command in Canada, and to misrepresent us to them. Through such means, our Brothers at St. Regis have been distressed for sometime past by Intruders imposed upon them from another Nation, who have no Pretensions to live in their Village; And last Winter, a Frenchman, named Clignancourt, came into Our Principal Village of Caghnawagee, ~~to create much Disturbance~~ bought a House privately, and was no sooner Settled, than he began to Create much Disturbance, by telling false Stories to the Officer Commanding there, and giving Countenance to Immoralities, that are highly Displeasing to us. Our Priest who is a peaceable good Man, endeavored as far as was in his Power to Restrain these Disorders in the usual Manner, and to Punish the Offenders according to the Religious Forms of Our Church, but was threatned, & treated with the greatest Contempt, so that he could not do his Duty, through the Artifices of this Frenchman. This gives us great Concern, and if we are not Redressed, we may in a little time be deprived of the use of that Religion, the use of which we were Assured should be Permitted to us. We therefore earnestly Request that you will take this into serious Consideration, and if you shall think it fitting, that you may lay it before the King, that we may not be Interrupted hereafter in the free Exercise of our Religion, or Our Priests prevented from Inflicting such Pains, and Pennances, as our Church requires, on Offenders.

A Belt – 7 Rows.

To which Sir William Answered.

Brothers.

I have harkned to your Speech, and do Assure you that I have not forgotten any part of the Engagements we formerly entred into, and which it is his Majestys Intentions shall be Strictly Observed in every particular. You have therefore Nothing to fear on that Acct.

The Affair of St. Regis, I understand has been lately settled to the satisfaction of the Indians of that place; And as to what you mention respecting your Village at Cagnawaga, I make no doubt that it would be soon Settled in the like Manner on my Acquainting the Governor of Quebec therewith; but as he is now, I understand, Sailed for England, I think the readiest Method to Gratify your Desire, will be by Letter to the Frenchman, I shall accordingly write to him in a proper Manner, and Give Coll. Claus Instructions about the Affair on his Return to Canada, which will be in a few Days. You may be Aſsured of his Majesty's Esteem, & that I Shall Continue to Shew you all the friendship in my power, so long as you continue to Promote Peace, and Adhere faithfully to your Engagements.

Returned their Belt

The Indians Spent the forenoon of this day in Council, and about Noon, Sir William had a Conference with some of the Chiefs On the Subject of their Answer. In the Afternoon the Indians Sent to Acquaint Sir William that they were Aſsembled.

At a Congreſs with the Several Nations of Indians Monday July 22d.

Present as before

Conoghquieson asked whether Sir William was ready to Attend to what they had to Say. On being Answered in the Affirmative. Abraham stood up, and Addreſsed him as follows.

Brother Gorah Warraghiyagey.

We are now met together in full Council to Answer you concerning what you last Spoke to us about the Kings having received our Deed, and the Proceedings at Fort Stanwix with his Ratification of the same, with which We are highly pleased, and we shall also Speak on what you have mentioned concerning the Diſcontent Some Indians have Expreſsed at part of our Ceſsion. Brother, We begg therefore that you will Attend to what we have now to Answer.

Brother,

When we met you to So great a Number at Fort Stanwix, and in so publick a manner we should have hardly Acted as we did, unleſs we had been Poſseſsed of a full Right to the Lands we Diſposed of, and had full Authority to do so. We are Surprized that any Doubt can arise about it. You very well know that our Title has been allways indiſputable. As to the Pretensions of any inconsiderable People behind our backs, we shall soon Silence them, and we now desire that you may Aſsure the King that it was our property we justly Diſposed of, that we had full Authority to do so. We return the King the Sincere thanks of all our Nations for Ratifying the same, and We again Confirm it, Promising to Abide allways thereby.

A Belt of 8 Rows.

Brother

We are very happy to hear of the good Diſposition of the King towards us, and of the Aſsurances you give us on that Occasion. We are highly pleased with the Indifference the King Shews for Lands, and we Consider it as a Sure Sign of his regard that he does not love to see us at War.

Brother.

We are not desirous of making War, but when the same appears neceſsary. We therefore Acquiesce to your Advice to us, and shall let the

Southern Nations alone, provided they Act a proper part towards us, but, Brother, Whilst We Express our selves so disposed, we cannot help reflecting on the treatment we Still Continue to receive, particularly On the Southern Frontiers where our People are frequently Robbed, and Murdered, and no Reperation made for all this. — If we we Inclined to be Silent at Such Conduct, Our Young Men would force us to Speak, and that warmly. They would soon be for Revenge, as the provocation we have received is too great, to be longer born with. —

— Brother We request that the great King will give Orders to his Governors, and Great Men concerning these Matters, assuring you that we are disposed to abide by our Engagements, & restrain Our Young People, but that we cannot pretend to do it, unless a Speedy End is put to the Behavior of the People who have so repeatedly Attacked us. —

A Black Belt 10 Rows

Brother —

At the Treaty at Fort Stanwix you then told us, as you had done before, that we should pass our time in Peace, and Travell in Security, that Trade Should flourish, and Goods abound, that they Should be sold us Cheap, and that Care Should be taken to prevent any Persons from Imposing on us. — Brothr. — this would have Endeared all the English to us: but we dont see it; — It is now worse than it was before, for we cannot get Goods at all at Present, and we hear from all the Traders, that no body will bring in any, and that you have none for your selves. —

Brother. — We Should take up a great deal of time, if we repeated all that we Suffer by these things: but you must be your self Sensible of them, and therefore we Rely upon you, that you will Lay these Matters before the King, and represent our

Situation

Situation, so that he may harken to our Words, & afford us Redress.—

A Belt 10 Rows.—

Then Conoquieson Stood up & Said.—

Brother.—

Agreeable to what you Yesterday recommended to us, we have now fixed upon four Chiefs from amongst us, who are Men of Sense, that will faithfully deliver our Words to the Shawanese, of which Number Thomas King is the Principal, who is a Man that you may be Assured will faithfully Execute whatever is desired of them.—

Then acquainted the Six Nations & Sir Willm Johnson, that by the death of Gawche a Tuscarora Sachim there was a Vacancy at that Council Fire, & accordingly raised up Tarriwahwage to Supply his place with the usual Ceremony.—

After which Saghtaghroana on behalf of the Seven Nations of Canada Stood up, and Said.—

Brother.

We the Nations living in Canada express our sincere thanks to you for having by your Prudence, and Wisdom, brought all the Nations here into One way of thinking, which no Other Person could ever have Effected.— this is a great Work, Brothr., and it gives us great pleasure, & I now Speak to you & all the Nations in publick upon it.—

Brother.

When we United our selves with the English on the Reduction of Canada, we then resolved to Act like Men, to be true to our Engagements, and to Scorn Lyes. We then Agreed for the preservation of Peace, that the Cagnawagees Should have their Eyes upon the

Council Fire of the Six Nations at Onondaga, and the other Council-fire at your house, whilst our Brethren at Canasadaga should have their Eyes upon all the Nations up the Ottawa or great River to the Westward. — Brother. — We did this, We allways gave you true Intelligence, and Studied to promote Peace; for, Brothr., we are Men of our Words, Men, who despise Double-dealing, and are incapabale of Deceit. We shall still act up to that Character, & Our Actions shall prove the truth of what we now say. We Resolve in Order to promote the Work, which you have begun, and Conducted so Successfully to send proper Deputies to the Indians to the Westward, taking that part of the Negotiation entirely upon ourselves, and we shall agree with the Six Nations in the Message they send, that we may not Speak with two Mouths upon so Important an Occasion. The men we shall make Choice of, shall be such as we may all place the utmost Confidence in, and they shall have Orders from us to return by way of Detroit, and Fort Pitt to your house, to bring you a faithfull report of the Negociation. —

Then Shewed the Belt wch. they purposed to send. —

Then Abraham the Chief returned Sir William the Belt which he had sent to the Meeting at Onondaga last Fall, cautioning them not to let their Warriors go to War, or Enter into any rash Resolves untill they heard from him. — with this having Complied, they according to Custom returned the Belt — After which, Abraham Returned the Belt sent last Spring by Sir William to the Senecas Country, to require them to Collect all the Horses they Could, the property of the White People, and to Deliver them up — All which, they promised strictly to comply with, and to prevent any from being taken in future by any of their People or Dependants. —

The Speaker then Acquainted Sir William that they had finished all the Material Buſineſs of the Congreſs. —

To all which Sir William answered as follows —

Brethren of the Sevl. Nations here Aſsembled. —

I am well pleased with the Answer which you have given me on the Several Subjects, and I hope that your Actions will Correspond with the Words you have made use of. — As I am well Acquainted with your Claims, and Pretensions, I considered the the Murmurings of ſome of your Dependants as of little Importance. It is nevertheleſs a Duty which you Owe to your Selves, to put a Stop to them, and I am very glad to hear that you have taken Resolutions for that purpose, which I hope, and Expect you will see performed. —

Brothers.

It is with Concern that I hear you Complain that the ~~the~~ People on the Southern Frontiers Still Continue to Molest you, because I know that great Pains have been taken to put a Stop to such Behavior. —— Brothers. — You know that I have often told you upon that Subject, that I have Reason to believe much of the Ill treatment you meet with, proceeds from the Indiscretion of ſome of your Young People, when paſsing through that part of the Country amongst people who suffered severely during the War. I shall nevertheleſs, as you desire, lay your Complaint before his Majesty, who I am persuaded will give any Orders that may be farther neceſsary for your Security. — And I am certain that the Several Governors will use their utmost

Endeavors for that purpose. but I Expect in Return that you will give the most Strict Caution to your Young People, that they Govern themselves in a peaceable Quiet manner, when they Resort to that Country: for Otherwise you cannot Expect that the Inhabitants will treat them with Kindneſs.—

Brothers.

I very well Remember all the Promiſes that have been made you, and the Engagements between us: you all See ~~they~~ that they are Committed to Writing in your Presence.——

I know that amongst Other things, you Received Aſsurances of a free, and plentifull Trade, and I can Confidently aſsure you that you will Still Enjoy the Same. It is true that for some little time Goods have been Scarce, but I now can Inform you, that they will be again in great plenty, as the Merchants have now Sent for large Cargoes which may be very Soon Expected at New-York, and a large Quantity is already come to Montreal, according to certain Advices I lately Received.—— I have likewise to Acquaint you that, although the Affair has taken up some time from the Distance of some of our Colonies from the Others, there is now a good Prospect that the Affairs of Trade will Speedily be Regulated on Terms of Advantage to you all, as I have heard that Some Commiſsioners for that Purpose are already met, and that more are on their way to the place Appointed for Determining thereupon.— I Shall however Comply with your Request in Laying this matter before his Majesty, on whose Attention to these, and all Other Affairs in which you are Interested, you may safely, and Confidently Rely. Brothrs.

Brothers —

I Approve of the manner you have Reſolved on, to send Meſsengers to the Shawanese, and of the Men you have chosen for that purpose; but as I Intend likewise to send Meſsengers, as well to the Shawanese, as to Mitchilimacinac, I Shall Expect to be made acquainted with the Purport of your Meſsage, that we may both Correspond upon that Subject. —

Brothers of the Seven Nations of Canada. —

I thank you for your honest, and Spirited Addreſs to myself, and all here Aſsembled, and I greatly Approve of your Reſolutions to send Meſsengers in the manner you propose. I Shall gladly Join them with Meſsengers from myself, to which End it will be neceſsary that I know what you Intend to Charge them with, that we may Unite in Sentiments. —

Then it Growing late, and a Thunder Storm coming on, Sir William thanked them all for their Accordation with him in Sentiments, and Adjourned.

Tuesday July 23d. — In the Morning the Indians Aſsembled in Council. — Present as before. —

Sir William having desired their Attention, spoke as follows. —

Brothers of the Six Nations of Canada, & all others here Aſsembled,

Having now brought the Buſineſs of this Treaty to a favorable Conclusion, I cannot help Expreſsing my Satisfaction thereat, and at the readineſs, and Unanimity which the Chiefs have manifested upon this Occasion. — It only now Remains that I Close this Congreſs in a Suitable Manner by Adding Strength, and Weight to our Proceedings.

I do therefore by this Belt, Renew, and Strenghten the Covenant Chain, or Alliance, entred into between our Ancestors, & yours.— I likewise, clean, and brighten it, so that it may not Contract any Rust; and I do assure you, on the part of the great King that we Shall take Care to hold it fast, and preserve it unhurt to the latest Posterity, if you will on your Parts be Observant of the part which is in your hands, and take equal Care of it.— I likewise Declare that it is the Intention of his Majesty, and all his Subjects, to Abide by, and Fullfill the Engagements with you so far as is possible; and I Recommend it to you all, to make publick the Transactions of this Treaty throughout all the Nations to the Setting of the Sun; and as you Value yourselves, and wish to be Happy, to Abide by, and faithfully Perform all that you have promised.

Gave the Belt of the Covenant Chain after which every Nation gave the Yo-hah.—

Brothers—

Notwithstanding the great Additional Expence which the King my Master has been at in bestowing Favors on Such an Additional Number of Indians, as by the Reduction of Canada have been admitted into Our Alliance, his Majesty is Still mindfull of you, and has therefore been Graciously pleased to Consider your present Wants, by Ordering you a handsome Present, which I have brought to this Place, and which Shall now be Delivered to you. I hope that you may Retain a gratefull Sense of these, and all other marks of his Royal Favor, and that you will allways be Studious to merit the Continuance of his Protection, and Friendship, and the Regard of all his Subjects.—

Brothers the Miſsasagas.

I am glad that by your Attending at this Treaty you had an Opportunity of Observing the Friendship Subsisting between the English, and your Brothers here Aſsembled, & the Unanimity with which we have brought several weighty Matters to an agreable Conclusion. — I Recommend it to you faithfully to Relate the Particulars that have Paſsed here, to your Nation, and Confederacy at your Return, Aſsuring them of the Friendship of the great King, and that I shall always preserve a Sincere Regard for them, and for their Interest, so long as they Continue to merit it by Contributing to Diffuse the Bleſsings of Peace throughout the Country within their Influence, and by Joining heartily in Promoting heartily the Several Matters of Importance agreed upon before me, by their Friends, and Confederates. A Belt

Brethren of the Several Nations here Aſsembled.

Every thing for the present being agreeably Adjusted, and Concluded upon, I have only to Add my Expectations, that you will be Stedfast in fullfilling your Engagements, and I now Close this Treaty with my kindest Wishes for your Prosperity.

Brothers the Cherokees

You have heard the Conclusion & Determination of the 6 Nations, and their Confederates, and upon maturely Considering all Circumstances, I hope they will prove Agreeable to your Nation to whom I Desire you will faithfully Report all the Transactions at this Place, Aſsuring them of my Friendship, and that I am much Obliged to them for the gratefull Sense, which from the Belt you delivered me, I find they Retain of my Endeavors in Effecting the Peace between them, and your Brothers here assembled, that I shall always Continue to promote it, trusting that they will do the like on their parts, and Sincerely wishing by attending to the Words of your Brother in Carolina, who has the Care of you, you may Continue to Deserve the Esteem of the great King, and all his Subjects. —

Two fine Belts. —

The Six Nations then Renewed their Engagements with the Cherokees, acquainting the Deputies, that as they had now come to a final Resolution before Sir William Johnson, they hoped that the same would be found Satisfactory to the Cherokees. —

The Nanticoks then Addressed Sir William, requesting that he would give them a Passport, and Letter to the Governor of Carolina, that they might go, and bring the Remainder of their People from thence, and Dispose of some Lands which they yet have there.

A Belt. —

They then earnestly Requested Sir William that he would prevent the Traders from bringing in any more Rum down the Susquahana, as they who lived there, were determined to Abstain from Drinking, seeing so many Murders committed by means thereof. —

A Belt

Sir William answered, that he would Grant a Passport, and also write in their favor to the Governor of Carolina Concerning their Lands, there, and Recommended a proper Conduct to them as they passed through the several Settlements &c.

A Belt —

Sir Wm

Sir William also promised them that he would do all in his power to Discourage the bringing of Rum to their Settlements, and Expressed his Approbation of the Resolutions they had taken, and wished them to Continue firm in the Same.

Returned a Belt.

The Cayuga Chief then Arose, and Acquainted Sir William & and the Six Nations that the Delawares, Monsies &c living at Chughnut, Wialosing &c had promised to remain where they now live, and not regard the Invitation of their Countrymen living at Ohio, & further assured the Six Nations, that they would Act agreeable to their Directions.

Spoke with 2 Belts.

Then the Chiefs of the several Nations assembled to Consider of an Answer to the Covenant Chain Belt, and after some time spent, Abraham the Mohawk Chief stood up, & in the name of the Six Nations, Canada Confederacy &c repeated what Sir William had said on sd Belt, and Returned their most hearty thanks for Renewing the Covenant, and they on their parts did the same.

The Onondaga Speaker then Arose, and Acquainted Sir William that they appointed Taganaghquaghsas in the Room of Kanayahiaid deceased, Tawahearnsoraghe of Karaghiadinad in the Room of Odonongola Chieftain of the Warriors, and two more of the Ondaga Nation, all which they hoped he would Approve of, and give them such Testimonies &c as are usual on these Occasions — Sir William Admitted, and Approved of their Recommendation, and after giving the new appointed Sachems the necessary Admonitions, he told them that he would at the next General Meeting give them the proper Testimonials &c which he had at his House —

A Large Belt

Wednesday Morning the Chiefs of each Nation present, waited on Sir William at his Quarters to let him know the Purport of their Message (to be sent by their Deputies) to Wawiaghtaw, Piankashaas, Kickapoos &c — which is as follows —

Brethern

These Deputies from the Six Nations Confederacy are now sent to Inform you of the Peace Established between us, and the Cherokees, as well of the good Harmony, and Union that Subsists between us, our Brethren the English, and all the Nations of Indians to the rising of the Sun, at the Same time to let you know our Surprize, and Displeasure at your untoward, and Unruly Behavior towards some of our People, as well as to our Brethern the English who are Employed Carrying Goods to the Illenois for your Use, and that of all the Indians in that Quarter, which Shews you are not in your Senses, Wherefore we now take you by the Head, and Shake you so as to bring you to them, and also to take the Hatchet Out of your hands which you Run about with Doing Mischief. Should you Still prove Obstinate, and Persevere in your Wickedness, they are in that Case authorized by the whole Confederacy now Assembled to tell you the Consequence will prove fatal to you. Repent therefore for what you have Done, otherwise you will Inevitably Involve your Nations in a War, which must terminate in your Ruin. —

A large Belt Shewn

The Canada Confederacy Consisting of Seven Nations then told Sir William, that as they Intended to wait on Sir William to his

House in their way home, they would then Acquaint him with the Purport of their Meſsage to those troublesome Nations, who were now like Men void of Sense running about with a sharp Ax in their Hands at a time when he was Endeavouring to Spread Peace over all the Land:—

The Miſsasagas also came to came to Acquaint Sir William, that they Intended to Wait on him to his House, where they had Something to Say to him Relative to their Nation.—

Sir William after returning the Chiefs his hearty thanks, for the part they had Acted during the Congreſs, and Expreſsing his Approbation of the Meſsage which they Intend Sending to these Ill disposed Nations, told them, and the Canada Confederacy, Miſsasagas &c that he Intended also to Send some Belts to them, which Should Coincide with theirs in a great Measure.— Then told the Canada Indians & Miſsasagas &c that he would be glad to See them at his House, as he had Something particular to Say to them. —— Then Ordered Provisions for for all the Nations on their Journey Home, and after Parting them in the most friendly manner Sett off that Morning for his own Seat Accompanied by above 150 Indians, & followed by Several other Parties, on the private Affairs of their Respective Nations.—

The foregoing is a true Copy Examin'd by me

Richd Shuckburgh Secry for Indn Affrs

Congreſs near the German-
Flatts. —
Transmitted with Sr. Wm.
Johnson's Letter of Sept. 2d.
1756. —

Members of Assembly respecting the Present proposed to be made by the Government to the Relations of Young Seneca George, and that they all much approved of the Measure, and made not the least Doubt but the Assembly would chearfully defray the Expence of such Presents as might be thought necessary to be made, as well as the Charges attending the Transportation and Delivery of them.

"Whereupon it was agreed that the following Goods should be sent to Fort Augusta without Delay, and there delivered to the Indians by Colonel Francis, with a Message to be prepared by Mr. Logan and Mr. Peters, and the Secretary was desired to speak to Mr. Fox and request he would Order the said Goods to be provided accordingly.

Here follows the List of the Goods, Viz^{t.}:

1	Piece of Black Strouds.
1	Ditto of Black half thicks (or Blue if Black cannot be got).
1	Ditto of Black Striped Duffills.
2	Ditto of Bandanoe Silk Handkerchiefs, dark Coloured.
1	Dozen of Shirts, Viz^{t.} 6 Ruffled and 6 Plain,
2	Pieces of Gartering, Scarlet and Star.
50	lbs of Tobacco.
4	Pair of Shoes, and 4 pair of Buckles.
15	Gallons of Rum in 3 Keggs.
2	lbs of Vermillion.
1	dozen of Small Brass Kettles.
2	Barrels of Pork.

It is also agreed that Flour and Indian Corn sufficient for the Indians that may come to Augusta, be provided by Colonel Francis, on the Frontiers or at the Susquehanna.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 22d of August, 1770.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c^{a.}

The Hon^{ble.}	James Hamilton,	William Logan,	Esquires.
	Richard Peters,	Lynford Lardner,	
	Benjamin Chew,	James Tilghman,	

A Company of Indians to the Number of 37, including Men, Women, and Children, came to Town on Friday, and to-day five of their principal Men waiting on the Governor, they were invited into the Council, and on their behalf Shoanaszowa, a Seneca Indian, made the following Speech to the Governor:

"Brother:

"I am glad to have an Opportunity of seeing you; We are of your Brethren that live at Chenango, on the Susquehanna, and We

come down to see our Brother, to tell him that We have of late had a good deal of sickness, and are in great Distress. Our Brothers here have always been kind to Us, and We hope We shall now meet with the same kind Treatment We have always had from You.

A String of Wampum.

"Brother:

"You told us, at the great Treaty that was held last Fall, that You would keep the Road between us open and safe, and be good to us, and desired We would act in the same Manner. Our Disposition, we assure you, is not changed towards you, it is still the same as ever, and We hope You are likewise of the same good Temper towards Us. We find what you told Us then to be true, for We have come here without any Molestation. The way has not a Stick in it, but all is free and open, and our Journey has been safe.

"Brother:

"In former Times all this Country belonged to the Indians; now it is otherwise. You have a large Share of it, and I am glad to find You carry on a good Trade with Us, and We live together in Peace and Love. This is just as you promised it should be at the last Treaty.

A String.

"Brother:

"I hope you will now pay a particular Regard to what I am going to say. We are come here from a great way off, and are much fatigued. There are some of the six Nations where we live, and I am come at their Instance, as well as from the other Indians that are at Chenango, and I hope you will listen to me in their behalf.

"You see our Condition; We are very poor and ragged; We have not had a good Hunting Season; We have been very Sick, and are in Distress; Have pity on Us, and give us a little Cloathing; We are almost Naked."

A String.

Mr. Peters was desired to acquaint the Speaker of the House with this application, and ask him to provide what should be thought proper to be given on the Occasion.

Thursday, the 24th of August, 1769.

MEMORANDUM.

Mr. Fox having, at the Instance of the Governor, provided a present for the Indians, it was this Day delivered to them, and the Governor at the same Time spoke to them as follows:

1773	To St. Jeans Interpr. Acct. of Exps. going to the Lake of 2 Mounts. by my order wth. Messages as pr. Accot.	4..	16..	—
	To Philips the Interpr. that attended the Caghnawy. Deps. 40 days @ 4s. ℘r. Day	8..	—..	—
	To Ca[*gnawy.*]nada Indns. passing & repassing my Place on Buss.	6..	12..	—
		£ 38..	2..	6

delivered in To Sr. Wm.
29th. March. 1774.
D. C.

Expenses for Summer 1774

Sept. 10th.	At Caghnawagey Arrival	£ 4..	16..	—
14	At a Meeting with the Aughquisasne Indns.	£ 16..	7..	4
Sepr. 23d.	At Caneghsadagey 3 Nats.	25..	4..	11
25th.	At Caghnawagey	34..	10..	9
26	At a Meeting with the Outawas	14..	—..	—
27	Another party from St. Regis	11..	4..	—

abt. the Congress at Onond a.			
To Smiths Work:	5..	—..	—
To Philips 6 Months Wages	20..	—..	—
To St. Jeans Do. Do.	20..	—..	—
To Exps. going to Montreal on Buss. abt. the Abinaqs.	8..	12..	—
To Mr. Heneys Accot. from Last March who has Dirs. to furnish Indns. coming on Buss. wth. Necessaries as pr. Acct.	102..	1..	4
To Exps. going & coms. from Cana.	36..	18..	5
£298..14.. 9	£298..	14..	9

Expenses for Canada March 1775.

To sundries in Provisions &ca. to Indn. parties passing & repassing my House on Buss.	55.. £	—..	—
To Mr. Van Eps Accot.	4..	17..	3
To Philips Iroqs. Intrs. 6 Months Salary	20..	—..	—
To St. Jean Outawa Interr. do. do.	20..	—..	—
To Ballce. of last falls Accot. £298.14.9.	157..	14..	9
	£257..	11..[1]	—

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[1] Error; should read 12 shillings.

Printed in Hamilton, W.J. Papers

Copy No. 260
10th: September 1770

Warrant

To Abraham Mortier Esqr.
Deputy Paymr. General
To Pay to Sir William Johnson,
the Sum of £1936.10.7½ Sterling.
Being the Amount of Expences
attending the General Congress
held at the German Flatts in July
1770

[W-]

Entd

dup

By His Excellency The Honourable Thomas Gage &ca &ca &ca

You are hereby directed and required out of such Monies as are or shall come to your Hands for the Contingent or Extraordinary Expences of His Majesty's Forces under my Command, to Pay or cause to be Paid, to Sir William Johnson Bart: Sole Agent for, and Superintendant of the Affairs of the Six Nations of Indians, inhabiting on the Mohawk River, and their Confederates; or His Aſsigns without Deduction; The Sum of Three Thousand Three Hundred Nineteen Pounds, Fifteen Shillings, and Four Pence half Penny. New York Currency, Equal to One Thousand, Nine Hundred, Thirty Six Pounds, Ten Shillings and Seven Pence half Penny Sterling. Being the Amount of Expences attending the General Congreſs held at the German Flatts in July 1770. as pr. The Annexed Accompt, The Vouchers and Certificates respecting which are Lodged with Sir William Johnson; And for so Doing this with the Acquittance of the said Sir William Johnson Bart: or His Aſsigns, Shall be your Sufficient Warrant and Discharge.

To Abraham Mortier Esqr.
Dep: Paymaster General,

Given under my Hand at Head Quarters
in New York this 10th Day of Sepr. 1770.

The Crown .... Dr.

To Expences Attended the General Congreſs Held at the German Flatts July 1770 —

	£	s	d
To a Cargoe of Goods of Samuel Stringer. ---- £	1844	5	11½
To Robt. Adems Acct. of Goods bought in New York ---	242		¾
To freight of the Goods from New York to the Place of Meeting	43	3	—
To Rideing over the Carrying Place —	4	12	—
To Shoemakers Account for Provisions &c. — —	380	3	9
To 5 Meſsengers sent different Ways to call the Several Nations 36 Days at 6/ pr.	54	4	—
To a Man who Accompanied an Ottawa Chief — from New York —	4		
To 3 Senecas Expreſs with an Account of the Indns. being Set of for the Flatts — ———	2	16	—
To the Cherokee Deputys to purchase provisions	2	14	—
To Provisions along the Road for the Canada Indians at 2 Places ———	5	17	6
To an Expreſs from Robt. Adams a Albany ----	1	10	—
To Mr. Fondas Account for Sundreys — ----	169	8	10¼
To Mr. Campbells Do. for Do. ------	78	14	9
To Mr. Van Eps Do. for Do. —	93	19	6
To Willm. Sebers Do. for Do. —	3	1	4
To Hendk. Youngs Do. for Do. ———	12	14	—
To an Expreſs sent to Shoemakers — ———	2	16	—
To 240 Axes — ———	40		
Carried forward £	2993	16	8½

Brought Over £	2993	16	8½
To 210 Hoes a 8/	84		
To 46 Fish Spears 6/	13	16	
To Expences going to & coming from the Flatts	12	14	--
To Waggon Hire to the Flatts	2	18	
To Horse Hire for the Ottawa Chief to Do.	--	18	
To Provisions at my House for 157 Miſsiſsageys & Canada Indians 5 days	39	10	
To Cash in private presents to ye. Chieſs of each Nation 280 Dollars	112	--	--
To the Burial of 3 Indians &ca	3	15	8
To the Cherokees returning home Cash to buy Provns. &ca	8	16	
To 6 Shawaneſe Do. on their Journey	7	10	
To an Ottawa Chief sent with Belts to Michilimack and a Present in Cloathing Sword &ca	12	13	--
To Cash to defray his Expences thither £8..& and Horse Hire to Schenectady 12/	8	12	--
To 8 days Maintenance of 45 Cognawagey and Other Indians coming and returning	16	16	--
£	3319	15	4½

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To 8 days Maintenance of 45 Cognawagey and Other Indians coming and returning		16	16	–
	£	3319	15	4½

Want of anything within the line of my Power, You will do me an Honour & withal a particular pleasure in laying Your Command upon me — I hear that Capt lewis Gage comanding one of His Maj^{s} Vessels upon the Lakes, is dead. I have wrote my Friend M^{r} White that if Government should incline to substitute one or more Vessels for that department to Consult You on the Choice of a proper officer to Comand them — I do this with no other View than that of knowing You must be the best Judge of the Service — I shall not interrupt Your Attention further at this time save to thank You for Your last Favour & to Sollicit the continuance of Your further Comands. I have the Honor to Subscribe myself with all possible deference & respect

Sir

Your much obliged and most
obedient Humble Servant
John Blackburn

Sir William Johnson Bar^{t}

INDORSED:[1]
London 12th. 7^{br}. 1770

M^{r}. Blackburns letter
with an Invoice of Sundry
Articles for the use of y^{e}. Crown
& also Some for myself —

FROM DANIEL CLAUS

A. L. S.

La chine 12th. Sept^{r}. 1770

Sir

Thom Wileman going hunting to Lake George [and] intending from thence of paying you a Visit, I take the opportunity of writing by him and acquainting you that I arrived at this Place last Sunday Even^{g}. after a tedious passage over the Lakes. Sir William Draper & Comp^{y}. I met on their Return from hence the same Evening I arrived at Lake George, and Col^{o}. Robinson invited me from S^{r}. W^{ms}. to sup with him, he questioned me ab^{t}. the Congress[1] you held, and regretted much of not having been able to see it being too long detained in Virginia by some Indisposition, was surprised at the great Number that met on the Occas^{n}. & said was present at a Meeting of M^{r}. Stuards but not quarter that Number met he asked whether the Treaty of Fort Stanw^{x}. with regard to the Line was confirmed I said it was, and could find that M^{r}. Stuard prejudiced him against it and told him it would occasion a war with Southern Indians and Virginians. I hope Sir William is gone to pay you a Visit as he partly promised me, and I repeated your Invitation to Cap^{tn}. Colins next Morn^{g}. who assured me if possible to persuade S^{r}. W^{m}. to take a Ride to the hall, if they have not, it is swaggering Col^{o}. Robinson that prevented it. I think I guessed right that the latter would not succeed in his Scheme with the Jesuits who dont intend to put Gen^{l}. Amherst in possession of their Estate during their Lifetime, unless forced to it.

---

[1] In Johnson's hand.

M^{r}. Antell spoke to me ab^{t}. Sanguinets Certificate and I am apprehensive the latter will make a handle of your not sending it upon his own Letter, as he now says if he could have sent it to England it might have been [ ] with the rest.

M^{r}. Hertell says he did not carry the french Answer to the Abinaquis, but that [ ] essential as Your last Reply upon their asking [ ] two years time allowd them to establish themse[lves] Misisqui, and their house finished at S^{t}. Regis [ ] they say you granted, I should be glad to have [ ] of it as son as possible that I may acquaint [the Augh] quisasne Ind^{ns}. wth. the Truth of y^{e} Matter. Hertell says [that] 2. Birch Canoes were stole from him at W^{m}. Fox's which occasioned much Distress delay & Expence to him, he & party being oblidged to foot it to Oswego, where with much ado he got an old Battoe to purchase, but no Provisi[ons] & must have starved were it not that he met a fr^{ch}. Trader who gave him a few Bisquits, I should think the Canoes may easily be found out there being none like them in these parts, he suspects the Germans, whoever took them deserves punishment, one of the Abinaquis being sick leaving the hall, died by the Way thro fatigue, he begd of me to inclose you his Acco^{t}. of Exp^{s}. over & above what you gave them [for] Prov^{s}.

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[1] The congress held from July 16 to 23, 1770, with the Six Nations, Canadian Indians and Cherokees at the German Flats.

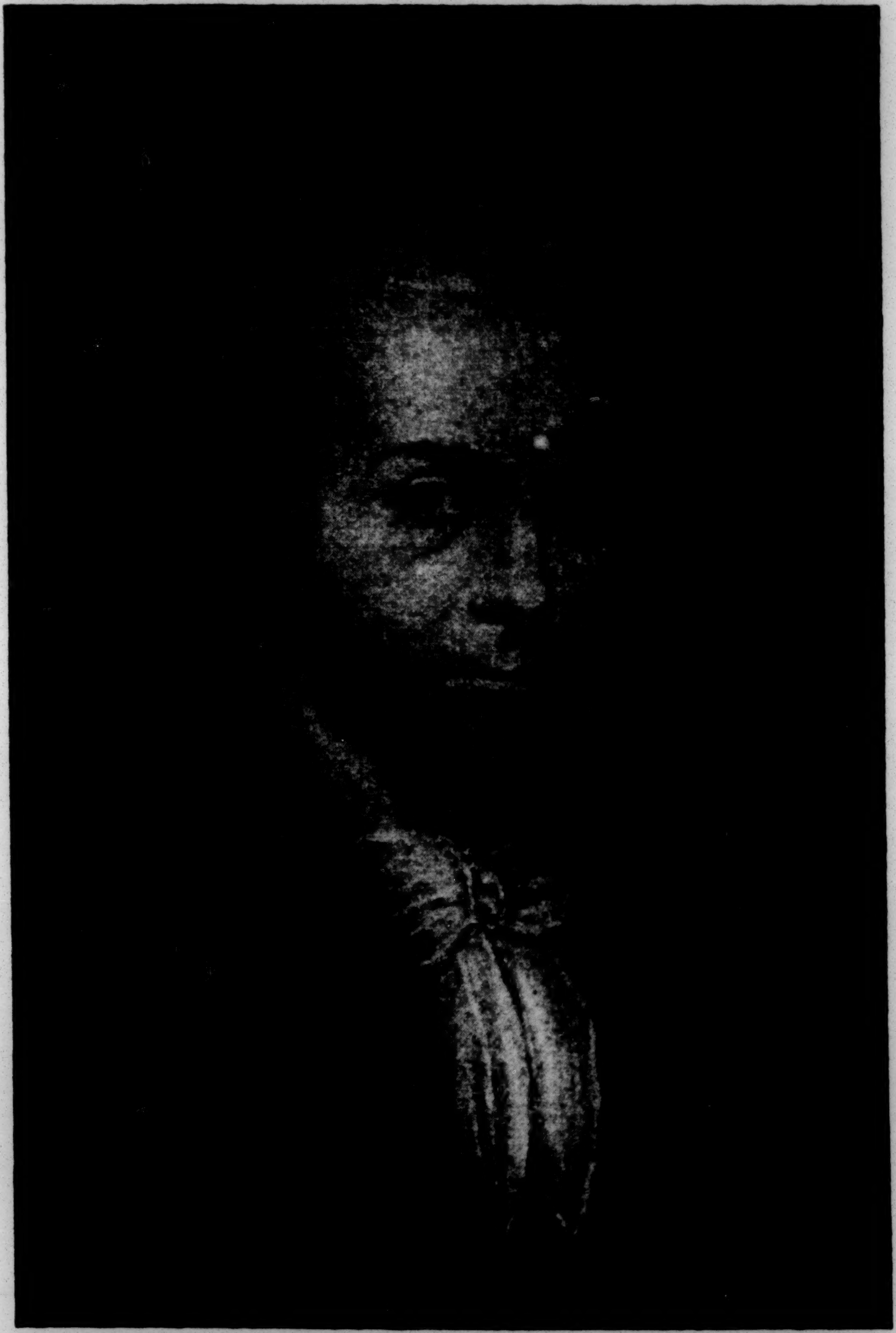
The Ottawa young chief to my Surprise waited [my] Arrival very impatiently, I was told by S^{t}. Luc and others that he behaved very well till within these few days, when they say he got drunk, killed some hogs & threatened [   ] but when I enquired y^{e} Truth of him by an Interp^{r}. of his own chusing (: w^{ch}. is one of Folmers Bro^{rs}. at the flatts spea[king] the Nipisink tongue perfectly well:) for he said he mis[trusted] the french; I found he was ill used by some people [in] the Suburbs on Acc^{ot}. as he says of Talking in pra[ise] of the English & the good Usage he rece'd from them [on a] Tour thro their Country, he could not point me [out any] of those that abused him there being a great Mob [of them] beating him & tearing his Cloaths, & telling [   ] to the English, he has a cousin german here [   ] Riviers the Interp^{r}. I hear his Gr^{d}. father [   ] Arbrecroche; I hear even S^{t}. Luc did not like his [tal]king so much of the English. I took him to my Lodging [in] the Country, and shall get him a passage in one of the provis^{n}. Boats going to Swegachy in a few days and recommend him to get on board the Vessells over the Lakes. The Traders murdering the Ind^{n}. near Michil^{c}. this Summer I hear will pass over unrevenged, he being a Vagrant & despised by the rest.

Maj^{r}. Fondas Goods are just arrived at Quebec, and may perhaps be here these 8 or 10 days, and the Cargoe for Toronto ought now to be on the Spot, to furnish the Ind^{ns} for their Winters hunt otherwise the best Opportunity is lost, besides the sending Battoes of Goods from hence by french hands is a risque, there being none to be got able enough to answer for such a Cargoe. I am told that the Misisageys intend Having all the Rum brought among them this fall for fear of its keeping them from hunting so that its difficult how to act in that case; Ferral ought to be upon the Spot himself & conduct the Boats to the place he wants them.

The real Motive of Thom Wilemans going down is on Acc^{ot}. of an unhappy Party Affair that divided the Caghnaw^{s}. for some time past, Envy & Jealousy are the Sources of it & the following is a brief Detail of its rise;

About 2 years ago the chiefs appointed a Committee of the principal warr^{rs}. to prevent any spirituous Liquors being brought to the Town in order to maintain Sobriety & good Order, it happens however that Philips had Occasion for some Rum to give his haymakers & brought a small Cag full over the River, his Canoe being examined by those people & the Cag found, it was seized & staved on the Spot. This Affronted Philip to that Degree, that by some means or other he got a Bottle of Rum in Town, rode thro the Streets [on] horseback defying any one to touch him, this vexed [ ] so much as to exclude him the Council, of which [ ] acquaint me hopeing I would no more keep him as Interp^{r}. I told them that I thought both [ ] rather a hasty & precipited part, and advised that [ ] of it cooly & deliberately, that I was convinced [ ] would be sorry for what he did & make it up, at [ ] to them in public & by a Belt of Wamp^{m}. recommending [ ] & Unanimity to them in the Strongest Terms they [have] with Difficulty settled Matters in all appearance peace [ ] But it seems the cinders of Jealusy & Envy were then [not] wholly extinguished, Philip & few others by Industry and superior cleverness getting in better circumstances then the rest, were always suspected of being secretly assisted & encouraged by Us, & they at last taking it for granted for fact, their Jealousy encreased and at last broke out anew as bad or rather worse than before, And I was no sooner arrived here but the Committee came to me making heavy Complaints of Philip & others bearing your Testimony for unbraiding the whole Town of their Superiority over [the] Rest on acc^{ot}. of the Papers & Stations they were in desp[ ] every body in the Town, by w^{ch}. Means the Town was kept in a continual ferment & Disturbance; And unless Philip who was the Instigator of his Adherents was not put out of his Employ they would no longer support their charge but let the place fall into its former s[tate] of Drunkeness & Debauchery, which must be atten[ded] wth. sorrowfull Circumstances. I told them I would enquire into the Matter, but all in vain they persisted of Ph[ilip] being out of Employ, at last acquiesced in leaving it to you[r] Decision which engaged Tom to go down he being one of the Ringleaders. Philip denied the charge and told me [it was] nothing but Jealousy & hatred that brought on all this [ ] that some even went the length of telling him they ha[d] those that were attached to the English, upon w^{ch}. I pointed [ ] to the others the Suites of such dangerous & disaff[ ] Discourses, but they jointly & absolutely denied [ ] quite contrary Sentiments towards us; however [ ] that Bostonlike they forcibly entered As a [ ]ding their papers, the former gave up a [ ] pass in place of his Testimonial which they commited to the flames, but the latter having nothing to give up but his p[ ]chment it shared the same fate; I shall on the first Meeting with them give them a little Explanation of such unprecedented & outrageous doings. To Morrow I intend going to Caneghsadagey; I hear just now that a Number of S^{t}. Francis Ind^{ns}. are come to Town. Cap^{tn}. Coghron at Cr^{n}. point gives his Compl^{ts}. & hopes for an Answer to a Letter he lately wrote you I beg to be remembered to all the family and remain with duty & Respect

Dear & honored sir
Your Obedient son
DAN. CLAUS



SIR JOHN JOHNSON

From a pastel portrait in the possession of Major F. C. Ornsby, Weymouth, England

Caghnaw^{y}. Ind^{n}. wth. him a sober good natured fellow whom he p[ ]

22. Returnd to my Lodging from Town; raind most [ ]

23. Was plagued by a Set of the Caghnaw^{y}. peace Officers to give them Rum. I had a good Opport^{y}. to give them their [ ] being out of humor for their coming on a Sunday began with their profaning the day & from that to their unreasonable party disputes among thems^{s}. & in short frightened them so that they crossed the River & alarmed the whole Village✢ who sent immed^{y}. a Deput^{n}. of upwards of [ ] old & Young begging by a large Belt of Wamp^{m}. to [bury] all Animosity under ground so as never to appear [ ] & not to listen to Reports propagated by evil Spirits w^{ch}. delighted in creating Mischief &c^{a}. I replyed that I heard what they said And would give them an Answer by Tuesday next this being Sunday dismissed them with pipes tobacco & a dram.

✢ that I was very angry & displeased wth. them all.

24. Aghtaghquesere a head Man came to acquaint me [that] he had the Misfortune to have his sugar house burnt [with] every thing in it all his kettles & every Article of [ ] asking for a kettle to dress his Victuals. After which the Ind^{n}. that was taken [

] when hunting wth. a party of Cherokees [ ]

[ ] fellows. One day going out wth. the Cher^{s}. from their hunt^{g}. house✢ ab^{t}. 8 days march from Shoty he seperated himself from his party & on his Return to their fire he espyed two Ind^{ns}. skulking ab^{t}. whom [he] thought to be Cherakees he challenged them they smiled & coming up to him wth. their pieces

levelled at him he doing the same till they came close he asked [ ] language (w^{ch}. has a resemblance wth the Abinaq Lang^{e}. w^{ch}. he underst^{ds}.) who they were. they replied Piankishas & in return asked him he rep^{d}. Natoway [ ] Nat^{s}. they then shook hands & asked him where the Cherokees were he was in [ ] w^{h}. he put them of and when they were seemingly going away one reached [out] his hand to take leave & he giving his he took a Grip & held him fast [un]till the other took hold of him likewise & notwithstand^{g}. all his Efforts to get at his knife they masterd & tyed him & brought him to their party a little ways off consisting of 7 more where he was fully secured wth. draw cords ab^{t}. his Neck, Arms & Body, he desired them to Kill & Scalp him on the Spot, but they replied y^{t} his Meat was too sweet to loose that they longed to taste the flesh of their new Enemys the C. Nat^{n}. who they heard by a Belt of Wamp^{m} from the Hurons at Detroit had made a Treaty of peace & Alliance wth. the Cherakees agst. them, & they in that Manner took him along securing him in the most extra^{y}. way at Night. After 30 days March ab^{t}. the Midle of Febr^{y}. they arrived at the Kayenkighsa Village they did not beat him but shook him & made him [da]nce but telling him they^{d} make soon a rosting piece of him, but some french [tra]ders in the Village know^{g}. him to be a Caghnaw^{y} with the Assistance of an English Trader residing there purchased his freedom w^{ch}. they obtained the easier as the Ind^{n}. he lived wth. wanted to replace him for a Son he lost the fall before by the Chikasaws & he was untied & given to that house. [ ] he afterwards understood that the Piank^{s}. of another Village some of whom were wth. the party [that] took him were not satisfied & wanted him to be burned, wherefore he endeavoured to make his Excape & accord^{ly}. one day going to look for horses wth. his adopted Bro^{r}. he took the Opport^{y}. of making off as fast as possible for Detroit wth. a little powd^{r}. and 11 Balls [&] arrived in 20 days hard march at that place. Upon Enquiring ab^{t}. the Belt & Message the Piank^{s}. told him off of the Detroit

Inds. he could not find out who sent it. He says [the] Pianks. are a proud Natn. & would never make peace with the Cheraks. & their Allies [the] Chickasaws who made continual Incursions killg. & takg. both French & Indns.

25th. Went to Caghnawagey to give them their Answer upon last Sundays Speech being met I told them by my Speaker Aquirandongwas that I gave Attention to what they said Last Sunday and that they were misinformed of my being angry or displeased wth. them that what I mentioned to those that Misrepresented wt. I said to them was intended as an Advice for their own Good ppeace among themselves that I could heartily wish they harboured no more hatred & Envy to any Body and in particular to one another; [ ] that as long as they did not drop that Spirit of party [jealou]sy they must be miserable in this & the other world since all their Going to church & pray[ing] [ ] as long as they harboured any ill Will to [ ] that if any of their Brethn. was guilty of [ ] Pride Boasting &ca. not to condemn immediately [ ] them gently wch. was the only means of preserving [ ] & Tranquility in their Village, and finally strongly [ ] ding Friendship & unanimity to them &ca. offering the hand [ ] After which Tyoherode chief & Tehanoghsonkoght at the head of the Rum Seizers spoke promising to drop & forget all that was past & live in peace & Harmony for the future; I then told them that if they were Sincere in their promises I would bury all that was past in [ob]livion whereupon they heartily thanked & shook hands wth. me. They then said they would acquaint me wth. what News they had by their people that returned from the Ilinois & beyond Michil havg. been 2 or 3 years past in the Traders employ in yt Country; that the Nations about these places were not at all peaceably inclined towards Whites as well as the Six Nations; that the Murder of the Indn. near Michilc. this Summer & former ill [ ] abt. that place was not forgot or made up as we imagined they being continually murmuring among themselves abt. it & even desired the Indns. in the white peoples Employ not to engage themselves for the future to come wth. them as they might comit a Mistake one time [or] other & hurt them in striking the later giving them to understand that this should be the last time of their coming among them wth. the Traders. On the other hand they are much dist[urbed] wth. the 6 Nats. makg. peace wth. the Cherakees wth. out acquainting them of it, & sent Belts to some Nats. last fall to join them in striking the Enemies of the Cheraks. among wch. they said they mu[st be] included as they were not made acquainted wth. that [ ]; that therefore they would stop up the road between the Natns. to prevent their joing. one another, that the chief of the [ ] killed by the Senecas at Niagara was unsettled & unre[ ] And that the Beginning of their Operations would be [ ] Revenge for Pondiacs Death by the Ilinois Indns. &ca.

They then acquainted me that they had forwarded Sr Wm. [ ] of last treaty by 3 of their principal yg. Men to the Indn. [ ] Sandusky alias Yeanhusne. And then concluded a News spread by a Western Indn. At Aughquis 2 or 3 [ ] Canada wch. they immediately buried under [ ] of News, tho accompanied wth. some [ ] the River late.

25th. Went to Montrl. to meet Mr. Colins found him at Fergusons the Coffee house where we discoursed & dined together, got a Copy of my Order to Raymont abt. making a Rent Roll for the Caghnawageys. After Dinner came in a Man [from] that part of New hampshire now in the Provce. of New York to [announce the] Discovery of a New & Short Road from that [ ] to Lake Champlain he reckoned it abt. 45 miles from his house to said Lake abt. 40 of wch. he came by water on a River emptying itself in Lake Champln. opposite the South End of Long Island. in sd. Lake, he has a Subscription from some People in York towards carrying on sd. Scheme. The College Mr. Banyar & other[s] contributed genteely & several People here are very Sanguine abt. it he was much encouraged by Jas. Robertson, Mr. Colins judge Marteihle the Livingstn. Brothers & is sure of

FROM DANIEL CLAUS

L. S.

Montreal 3 Oct^{r}. 1770

In Sept^{r} 1769 His Exc^{y}. Gen^{l}. Carleton ordered me to be present with some principal Men of the Sault S^{t} Louis Nation at the fixing of a boundary Line between the Seigneurie of Praierie de la Madeleine and that Claimd by one René Cartié, by John Colins Esq^{r}. D^{y}. Surv^{r}. Gen^{l}. of this Prov^{ce}. w^{ch}. Bounderies being fixed with the usual customs & Ceremonies, the Indians returned very well contented & satisfied and accordingly directed their Receiver of Rents to collect them as comprehended in the Line fixed by s^{d}. M^{r}. Colins, but to their Surprise they found that s^{d}. Cartié whose Front Line Making their Rear having obtained an Order of Survey for s^{d}. Boundaries of the late Gen^{l}. Burton by which Line the Difference is so great as to deprive the Savages of near Forty Inhabitants agreable to the Surveyor Generals Bounds, w^{ch}. he will make appear more fully & clearly by his Survey when called upon.—

It is therefore the Petition & request of the Sault S^{t}. Louis Ind^{s}. to His Maj^{s}. President & Council at Quebec that [you] woud please to lay an Injunction upon [*s^{d}. Inhabitants between the Lines in dispute*] to prevent s^{d}. Cartié from receiv^{g}. more Rents from said Inhabitants between the Lines in dispute untill such time as they may be lawfully revised examined and finally adjusted. Which Petition said Indians in a full Meeting held at the Sault S^{t}. Louis desired me to make to you in their behalf as Presid^{t}. & Comd^{r}. in chief of this Prov^{ce}. I am likewise to acquaint you that the Disputes of the Iroquois at S^{t}. Regis wth. the Abinaquis & M^{r}. Hertell who persist of establishing themselves there in Opposition to His Maj^{s}. Proclamation published in 1766, are come to that crisis that I apprehend Bloodshed must soon ensue w^{ch}. may be attended wth. dangerous Consequences if not guarded agst to this Prov^{ce}. in particular & perhaps to the other Colonies in General it is my h^{ble} Opinion that was M^{r}.

Hertell to desist or be prevented from going there Matters would not go that length since while he remains from [ ] the Abinaquis are quiet & would soon quit the place, but his persisting [in remain]ing there provokes the Iroquois & encourages the Abinaq^{s} [ ] the former in conjunction wth. those of S^{t}. S^{t}. Louis [ ] have now enjoined the latter to leave [ ] promise 3 year ago, w^{ch}. the Iroquois persist [ ] have complied with their first [ ] had they not been provoked [ ] Hertell to remain & should they refuse [ ] it will come to extremities.

By Indian Intelligence received from those that [ ] imployed by the Traders of this place to hunt for them [ ] this Fall some from the Illinois & some from [ ] Michilim^{c}: I learn that the Indian Nations living at those places are not so peaceably inclined as could be wished, having heard them frequently mu[tter] & complain agst. the whites ab^{t}. the Murder at Michilim^{c} & other ill usages and and what made them suspect [ ] ill Intentions the more was that they in a manner prohibited them to come for the future in the white peo[ples] Employ intimating y^{t} at some time or other they might thro' a Mo[ ] hurt i. e. kill them when under the Protection of White people, intending thereby Mischief or plunder of the Traders Canoes. I am with great Esteem

Sir

Your Most Obed^{t}. & most Hbl^{e}.
Servant
D. C. D.^{y} to S^{r}. W^{m}. Johns^{n}. Esq

P. S. In case an Injunction is granted the Sauv^{s} of S^{t}. Louis it ought to be put in force before the Term of Cartié's collecting his Rents w^{ch}. is on S^{t}. Martins day the 11 of Nov^{r} next.

D^{R} S^{R}

Agreable to your Directions I discoursed wth. M^{r}. Panet ab^{t}. obtain^{g} an Injunc[tion] upon the Rents in Dispute between Cartié & the Savages w^{ch}. he engaged to do, accordingly I called upon him agn. sometime after but said he had as yet done nothing in it & seemed to me rather indifferent abt. ye. affr. I happend afterwards in Compy. wth. Mr. Martell the Judge & Mr. Collins, the latter explaining [every] thing to him thoroughly who gave it as his Opinion that an Injunction [ ] be obtained from the president & Council & did not doubt of its being [ ] upon due Application Instances of the kind occurring very often, & that the court [ ] Pleas would not medle. in the affr. I therefore wrote by Mr. Collins to Mr. Cras [ ] in behalf of the Savages who will be best able to explain the Matter to him in its proper light I have hitherto been innocently accused of giving an [ ] Survey to Raymont Cartié for ye Indn. Land obtaind it from Genl. Burton & I only ordered the former Rent Roll for ye. Savages on Mr. Panets refusl. to act any more for them [ ] as I discovered by a Copy of my paper to Raymont the Original Genl. [ ] demanded of him for what reason I cant conceive I am clear in my Conscience to [ ] acted for the Interest of the Inds as far in my Power lay my opposing Genl. Burton ordr. f [ ] who was bound to see the Indns. Justice done must have been looked upon by every one as conceited [ ] in me. If Cartié & Raymont meant to defraud the Inds. of their Rent or drew a defective [ ] it can never [ ] for Government to rectify it wthout the least prejudice to those that rectified the Survey [ ]ding upon the Veracity of a sworn Surveyr. I have now settled & speecified with [ ] & shall prepare for my Return most of Inds. being gone hunting [ ] be happy to hear from & give our News While I remain with great Regard

Dr Sir
Your most [ ]
[ ]

To
HENERY KNELLER Esqr

Le Soursigné Missionnaire a St. Regis Certifie que Sur la fin de l'année Derniere Monsieur le chevalier hertel obtint des iro-

quois De S^t. Regis la permission de se battir une maison de bois aux Conditions suivantes qu'il proposa luy meme en ma presence que je luy servise de temoin et d'interprette et que je donnasse connoissance de sa parole a Monsieur le General afin que les Sauvages fussent parfaitement Convaincu qu'il ne vouloit point les tromper. voici donc ses conditions

1°. qu'il ne vendroit sa maison a qui que ce soit, anglois, françois ou sauvage sans la permission et l'agrement des iroquois.

2°. que quand il partiroit il laisseroit sa d^{te}. maison aux chefs iroquois et a leur Missionnaire pour la vendre a qui bon leur sembleroit moyennant qu'on luy tiendroit Compte de l'argent qu'on en trouveroit.

3°. que quand les Abenaquis quitteroient S^t. Regis il Partiroit aussitot luy meme de S^t. Regis Sans que sa maison invandue ni ses credits mon payés pussent etre pour luy un pretextte d'y rester plus longtemps.

J'atteste et certifie aussi que les susdites propositions ecrites de Ma main ont etée Remises a Monsieur le General Carleton par m^r hertel. C'est Monsieur Carleton luy meme qui me l'a dit en presence Du d^t. M^r Hertel en foy de quoy J'ay Signe le Present certificat au Sault S^t. Louis ce 30^e 7^{bre}. 1770.

A. GORDON, Jesuitte

To HENERY KNELLER Esq^r.

INDORSED:

[ ]
An^d. M^r. Kneller K^s. Attorney
3^d. Oct^r. 1770.
By M^r. Collins D^y Surv^r Gen^l

Translation

To
HENERY KNELLER Esq^r.

I the undersigned missionary at St. Regis certify that toward the end of last year the chevalier Hertel obtained from the Iroquois of St. Regis permission to build himself a wooden house on

the following terms which he proposed himself in my presence provided I serve him as witness & interpreter and that I inform the General of the agreement made by him in order that the Savages would be perfectly convinced that he would not cheat them. His conditions are as follows.

1. That he would not sell his house to any one whether English, French or Indian, without the permission & consent of the Iroquois.

2. That when left he would leave the said house to the Iroquois chiefs and to their missionary to sell it to whomsoever they pleased, provided that they would render account to him of the money received for it.

3. When the Abenaquis should leave St. Regis he would immediately leave without making his unsold house or his unpaid debts a pretext for staying any longer.

I attest and certify also that the above written propositions written with my hand have been delivered to General Carleton by Mr. Hertel. Mr. Carleton himself told me so in the presence of the said Mr. Hertel.

In witness whereof I have signed the present certificate at Sault. St. Louis Sept. 30, 1770.

A. GORDON Jesuit

To HENERY KNELLER Esq^r^.

FROM JOHN BLACKBURN

A. L. S.[1]

London 4th October 1770

SIR

Foregoing is a Coppy of what I had the pleasure of writing you on the 12th Ult^o^.[2] since which am without any of Your favors — enclosd You have Invoice of sundry Goods shipp'd on Board the

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[1] Missing parts supplied from the copy in the Johnson Manuscripts which is not printed.

[2] *See* supra, VII.

Britannia Capt^{n}. Munds Amount whereof being One thousand & forty pounds Eighteen Shillings & one penny I place to your debit. You have also another small Invoice for Your Servants, amount whereof being Thirty nine pounds Seventeen Shillings & Eight pence is Carried to your debit accordingly — I have paid ready Money for all those Articles & Receiv^{d}. the usual discount thereon, which you will find Deducted from the Invoice — in short you have every allowance made to me — the Blankets are higher Charg'd then the last owing to that advance made by the Manufacturers — but I insisted on their giving me the 5 ℘ C^{t}. discount — I was sorry to find that the mate of Capt^{n}. Millers Ship Could not receive the Gunpowder on Board owing as He writes me to the Vessel's being too full — I hope however that its being sent ℘ this Conveyance will make Little or no Difference — the Insurance upon Capt^{n} Munds I got done at the Usual peaceable premium, whereas if I had Staid untill this time, I must have given 4 Guineas ℘ Cent —

A War in my opinion is inevitable, & from the operations now Carried on by our Court there is little reason to doubt it — in short We have gone so far that we cannot retract & the Spaniards are so haughty that they will never submit to what they look upon as an Insult — I find the Courier sent from hence will not return before the 14th of this Month, when we shall know the answer from the Court of Spain — I shall do myself the Pleasure of writing You by every Conveyance & at same time convey to you every piece of [Intelligence] worthy your Attention — I now take the Liberty [to inclose you] Capt^{n}. Robert's Bill on you for One Hundred [pounds Sterling being money I have advanced that] Gent^{m}. & hope it is with your approbation —

I have the Honor to subscribe myself with much [Esteem]

Sir

Your most obliged & most
Obedient Humble Servant

JOHN BLACKBURN

Pennsylvania, 1770.

Saturday the 6th of October 1770

The Returns of the Sheriffs and Coroners for Lancaster, York, Kent and Suſsex Counties, being now made, The Governor appointed and Commiſsionated the following Persons as Sheriffs and Coroners for their respective Counties Viz.t

Frederick Stone	Sheriff	Lancaster County
Samuel Boyd	Coroner	
George Eichelberger	Sheriff	York . . . Do
Joseph Adlum	Coroner	
James Caldwell	Sheriff	Kent . . Do
John Smither	Coroner	
Boaz Manlove	Sheriff	Suſsex . . Do
Reese Wolfe	Coroner	

A Conference was then held with several Munsey Indians;

Present,

The Honorable John Penn Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c.

William Logan, } Esquires.
James Tilghman, }

Meetham, the Munsey Chief and ten other Men.

John Hneebuckle; Interpreter.

The Chief addreſsed himself to the Governor, and with a String of Wampum went through the usual Ceremony of wiping the Eyes, cleansing the Ears, and clearing the Throat, that the Governor might look on his Indian Brethren, and hear well what they had to say, and might speak to them from his Heart; and then delivered the String of Wampum.

The Chief then continued as follows.

Brother,

We are come from Welawamung, or the big [illegible] where we keep a great Fire. When we came from the Horn, which is our Place of Residence, I perceived the Road was very dirty and nasty, my Brothers all bloody, and your Houses full of Blood and Filth. I now sweep the Road quite clean, and wash away all the Blood from your Bodies and Houses.

Brother,

There are a great many of my Brethren's Bones laying out of Doors, I see them every now and then scattered about in different Places, I now collect them all together and take them up and carry them to a Place where no People have ever yet been. I see there a great Tree, which I now pull up by the Roots, and I put in its Place all my Brethrens Bones, and bury them there so that they may never be seen again, and that your Grand Children may never know where they are buried.

A Belt of eight Rows. —

Brother,

There is something the Matter with your Heart; it is all on one side; I now make it as strait and as good as it used to be, when we talked good Words at the great Treaty at Easton.

A Belt of seven Rows.

Brother,

I now make the Road good, by removing the Stumps and Stones, and I bend the great Trees down on one Side, that the Road may always remain open, and there may be no more Uneasineſs between us. — A black and white Belt of seven Rows.

Brother,

I must now acquaint You with the Busineſs of my coming to Philadelphia.

I am just come from a Treaty lately held with the Indians by Sir William Johnson, which has occasioned my coming here at this Time.

Brother,

I must tell You that We are quite Poor, and that our young Men cannot walk so far as Philadelphia for such Things as they want, and therefore We want a Store Keeper and a Gun Smith to live among us at our Town, the big Horn; by whom we may be supplied with Blankets and other Cloaths, and that We may conveniently get our Guns mended and repaired from Time to Time, and therefore Brother we request you will fix a Store and a Gun Smith there. — A Belt of six Rows. —

Brother,

I am to inform You that I do not come now to Philadelphia of my own Accord, I am sent here by the six Nations. —

Now, Brother, I fill your Pipe, and you must look towards our Country; and when the Leaves come out in the Spring, or as soon as the Bark Peels, We and the six Nations will come here to see You, and speak to You, for We have a great deal to say to You.

Brother,

Pennsylvania, 1770.

Brother,

There was a Belt of Wampum sent up among us, about a Year ago, from Philadelphia; and We inform you that every thing has been done by us, as you desired. —

Brother,

I want to know at what Place we shall have a Treaty with You. There are two Fires; one of them is here, and the other at Easton; And we leave it to You to chuse where we shall meet You. — A Belt of five Rows. —

Brother,

I have now finished what I had to say respecting the Business of my coming here; but I am to inform you that there are here, among us, a Cherokee Indian Man, his Wife, and a Child, who are just come down the Susquehanna, from Sir William Johnson's; and, as they are desirous of returning home to their own Country in the most expeditious Manner, they request that the Governor will give them a Pass, that they may proceed to Carolina with Safety.

Monday, the 1[illegible]th of October, 1770.

The Return of Sheriff and Coroner for Cumberland County being now made, the Governor appointed and Commissioned

David Hoge . . . Sheriff }
William Denny . . Coroner } of the said County.

Council Chamber, Memorandum, the 16th of October, 1770.

A Committee of the Assembly waited on the Governor Yesterday and acquainted him that, pursuant to the Charter and Laws of this Province, a Quorum of the Representatives had met, and having proceeded to chuse their Speaker desired to know when he would be pleased to receive the House that He might be presented for His Honor's Approbation. — The Governor, having appointed this forenoon at eleven o'Clock for that Purpose, acquainted the House, by the Secretary that he attended his Appointment in the Council Chamber, and was ready to receive the House, with their Speaker.

The

iffs, Constables, and other Officers, as well as all other His Majesty's Subjects within this Government, to make diligent Search and enquiry after the said Lazarus Stewart, and to use all lawful means for apprehending, securing, and bringing him to Justice. And as an Encouragement for that Purpose, I do hereby promise and engage that the public Reward of fifty Pounds shall be paid to any Person or Persons who shall apprehend and secure the said Lazarus Stewart in one of the Public Gaols of this Province, so that he be brought to his Trial, and proceeded against according to Law.

"*Given* under my Hand and the Great Seal of the said Province, at Philadelphia, the third day of October, in the tenth Year of His Majesty's Reign, and in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy.

"JOHN PENN.

"By His Honour's Command.

"JOSEPH SHIPPEN, Jr. *Secr'y.*"

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Thursday the 4th October, 1770.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

William Logan,
James Tilghman,
Benjamin Chew, } Esquires.

The Governor laid before the Board the Returns of Sheriffs and Coroners for the Counties of Philadelphia, Chester, Bucks, Berks, Northampton, and New Castle, which being duly considered, the following Persons were appointed and Commissionated as Sheriffs and Coroners of their respective Counties, Vizt.:

Judah Foulke,	Sheriff,	Philadelphia City & County.
Caleb Cash,	Coroner,	
Jesse Maris,	Sheriff,	Chester County.
Joseph Gibbons, Junior,	Coroner,	
Joseph Ellicott,	Sheriff,	Bucks Do.
James Wallice,	Coroner,	
Jacob Shoemaker,	Sheriff,	Berks Do.
Samuel Jackson,	Coroner,	
Peter Kachlein,	Sheriff,	Northampton Do.
William Ledlie,	Coroner,	
Thomas Duff,	Sheriff,	New Castle Do.
Henry Vining,	Coroner,	

Saturday the 6th of October, 1770.

The Returns of the Sheriffs and Coroners for Lancaster, York, Kent, and Sussex Counties, being now made, The Governor appointed and Commissionated the following Persons as Sheriffs and Coroners for their respective Counties, Vizt.:

Frederick Stone,	Sheriff,	Lancaster County.
Samuel Boyd,	Coroner,	
George Eichelberger,	Sheriff,	York Do.
Joseph Adlum,	Coroner,	
James Caldwell,	Sheriff,	Kent Do.
John Smither,	Coroner,	
Boaz Manlove,	Sheriff,	Sussex Do.
Reese Wolfe,	Coroner.	

A Conference was then held with several Munsey Indians.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

William Logan, James Tilghman, Esquires.

Meetham, the Munsey Chief, and ten other Men.

John Kneebuckle, Interpreter.

The Chief addressed himself to the Governor, and with a String of Wampum went through the usual Ceremony of wiping the Eyes, cleansing the Ears, and clearing the Throat, that the Governor might look on his Indian Brethren and hear well what they had to say, and might speak to them from his Heart, and then delivered the String of Wampum.

The Chief then continued as follows:

"Brother:

"We are come from Welawanung, or the big Horn, where we keep a great Fire. When we came from the Horn, which is our Place of Residence, I perceived the Road was very dirty and nasty, my Brothers all Bloody, and Your Houses full of Blood and Filth. I now sweep the Road quite clean and wash away all the Blood from your Bodies and Houses.

"Brother:

"There are a great many of my Brethren's Bones laying out of Doors, I see them every now and then scattered about in different Places; I now collect them all together, and take them up, and carry them to a Place where no People have ever yet been. I see there a great Tree, which I now pull up by the Roots, and I put in its Place all my Brethren's Bones, and bury them there, so that they may never be seen again, and that your Grand Children may never know where they are buried.

A Belt of eight Rows.

"Brother:

"There is something the Matter with your Heart; it is all on one side; I now make it as strait and as good as it used to be, when we talked good words at the great Treaty at Easton.

A Belt of seven Rows.

"Brother:

"I now make the Road good by removing the Stumps and Stones, and I bend the great Trees down on one side, that the Road may always remain open, and there may be no more Uneasiness between us.

A black and white Belt of seven Rows.

"Brother:

"I must now acquaint you with the Business of my coming to Philadelphia.

"I am just come from a Treaty lately held with the Indians by Sir William Johnson, which has occasioned my coming here at this Time.

"Brother:

"I must tell you that We are quite Poor, and that our young Men cannot walk so far as Philadelphia for such Things as they want, and therefore we want a Store Keeper and a Gun Smith to live among us at our Town, the big Horn, by whom we may be supplied with Blankets and other Cloaths, and that we may conveniently get our Guns mended and repaired from Time to Time, and therefore, Brother, we request you will fix a Store and a Gun Smith there.

A Belt of six Rows.

"Brother:

"I am to inform you that I do not come now to Philadelphia of my own Accord; I am sent here by the Six Nations. Now, Brother, I fill your Pipe, and you must look towards our country; and when the Leaves come out in the Spring, or as soon as the Bark Peels, we and the Six Nations will come here to see you and speak to you, for we have a great deal to say to you.

"Brother:

"There was a Belt of Wampum sent up among us about a Year ago from Philadelphia, and we inform you that every thing has been done by us as you desired.

"Brother:

"I want to know at what Place we shall have a Treaty with you. There are two Fires; one of them is here, and the other at Easton. But we leave it to you to chuse where We shall meet you.

A Belt of five Rows.

"Brother:

"I have now finished what I had to say respecting the Business of my coming here; but I am to inform you that there are here among us a Cherokee Indian Man, his Wife and a Child, who are just come down the Susquehanna from Sir William Johnson's; and as they are desirous of returning home to their own country in the most expeditious manner, they request that the Governor will give them a Passport, that they may proceed to Carolina with Safety.

—

Monday the 8th of October, 1770.

The Return of Sheriff and Coroner from Cumberland County being now made, the Governor appointed and Commissionated

David Hoge, & Sheriff, }
William Denny, Coroner, } of the said County.

—

Council Chamber,

MEMORANDUM, the 14th of October, 1770.

A Committee of the Assembly waited on the Governor yesterday, and acquainted him that, pursuant to the Charter and Laws of this Province, a Quorum of the Representatives had met, and having proceeded to chuse their Speaker, desired to know when he would be pleased to receive the House, that He might be presented for His Honor's Approbation. The Governor having appointed this forenoon at eleven o'clock for that Purpose, acquainted the House by the Secretary that he attended his Appointment in the Council Chamber, and was ready to receive the House with their Speaker.

The Whole House waited on the Governor, and presented *Joseph Galloway*, Esquire, as their Speaker, who after receiving the Governor's Approbation, claimed the usual Priviledges in the Name and Behalf of the House; to which the Governor replied that he thought those Priviledges inherent in a Representative Body, and he should be careful to protect the House therein.

—

Tuesday, the 16th of October, 1770.

The Governor sent the following Message to the Assembly by the Secretary, who at the same Time laid before the House a Copy ot an Indian Conference therein referred to.

Brother,

There was a Belt of Wampum sent up among us, about a Year ago, from Philadelphia; and We inform you that every Thing has been done by us, as you desired. —

Brother,

I want to know at what Place we shall have a Treaty with You. There are two Fires; one of them is here, and the other at Easton; But we leave it to You to chuse where We shall meet You. — A Belt of five Rows. —

Brother,

I have now finished what I had to say respecting the Buſineſs of my coming here; but, I am to inform you that, there are here, among us, a Cherokee Indian Man, his Wife, and a Child, who are just come down the Susquehanna, from Sir William Johnsons; and, as they are desirous of returning home to their own Country in the most expeditious Manner, they request that the Governor will give them a Paſsport, that they may proceed to Carolina with Safety.

Monday, the 8th of October, 1770.

The Return of Sheriff and Coroner for Cumberland County being now made, the Governor appointed and Commiſsionated

David Hoge . . . Sheriff } of the said County.
William Denny . . Coroner }

Council Chamber, Memorandum, the 14th of October, 1770.

A Committee of the Aſsembly waited on the Governor Yesterday, and acquainted him that, pursuant to the Charter and Laws of this Province, a Quorum of the Representatives had met, and having proceeded to chuse their Speaker desired to know when he would be pleased to receive the House that He might be presented for His Honor's Approbation. — The Governor, having appointed this forenoon at eleven o'Clock for that Purpose, acquainted the House by the Secretary that he attended his Appointment in the Council Chamber, and was ready to receive the House, with their Speaker.

The whole House waited on the Governor, and presented Joseph Galloway Esquire as their Speaker, who, after receiving the Governor's Approbation, claimed the usual Priviledges in the Name and Behalf of the House; to which the Governor replied that, he thought these Priviledges inherent in a Representative Body, and, he should be careful to protect the House therein. —

Tuesday, the 16th of October, 1770.

The Governor sent the following Meſsage to the Aſsembly by the Secretary, who, at the same Time, laid before the House a Copy of an Indian Conference therein referred to. — The Meſsage follows in these Words, Viz.t —

Gentlemen,

I have ordered the Secretary to lay before You a Conference I had on the sixth Instant with some Munsey Indians charged with a Meſsage from the six Nations, informing me that they have a great deal to say to me, and requesting that I would hold a Treaty with them some Time next Spring. — I have not been able to collect what particular Buſineſs they have to transact with us. Should it relate to Matters which concern this Province only, "and are not merely Objects of "Negotiation between His Majesty and them," which, by the late Royal Regulations, fall within the Department of the Superintendants of Indian Affairs, Justice and good Policy, in my Opinion require, that we should comply with their Request in an Affair of such Importance, and which, in its Consequences, may be attended with a considerable Expence to the Public. — I should be glad, Gentlemen, of your Advice and Aſsistance, and shall detain the Indians till I receive your Answer, which I request may be as soon as poſsible.

During my Administration I have often been put to great Difficulties for want of Money to defray the Expences of such Indians as have applied to me from Time to Time in the Receſs of Aſsembly, and have sometimes been under the Neceſsity of detaining them longer than I should have done, on that Account, which has greatly enhanced the Public Expence.

I

I think it would be to the Honor as well as Interest of the Province, that a permanent Fund should be established for this Purpose. I therefore earnestly recommend this Matter to your Consideration, and hope you will make such Provision, as you judge may be adequate to the Occasion, without Loss of Time.

October 15th 1770.

John Penn.

Wednesday, the 17th of October, 1770.

Two Members of Assembly waited on the Governor, and presented to him a Message, which follows in these Words, viz.

May it please your Honor,

The House taking into their serious Consideration your Honor's Message of the 16th Instant, with the Minutes of Conference therewith sent by the Secretary, beg Leave to remark, that the House esteem it their Duty, at all Times, carefully to attend to the Complaints of Indians, and to apply every reasonable Means in their Power to keep them in good Temper and Harmony with this Government. But, as it does not appear by the present Application for a Treaty with this Province, what is the Cause thereof, nor is it made with such Certainty, or with those Ceremonies usually attending such Requisitions, we apprehend we should not, at present, be justifiable in burthening our Constituents with the great Expence which would attend a public Treaty. We therefore beg Leave to recommend it to your Honor, to confer further with the Indians now in the City, and, if they can inform You of any Complaints the six Nations or any other Indians have against this Government, or, of any other Motive to desire a Treaty with us, the House will, upon being acquainted therewith, duly consider the same, and afford to your Honor such Advice and Assistance as the Nature of such Complaints or Motives may require.

— With regard to your Honor's Recommendation that, the House would provide a Fund to defray the occasional Expences of Indians coming to this City, during the Recess of Assembly, we are of Opinion that the establishing such a Fund may be there a great Tree, which I now pull up by the Roots, and I put in its Place all my Brethren's Bones, and bury them there, so that they may never be seen again, and that your Grand Children may never know where they are buried.

A Belt of eight Rows.

"Brother:

"There is something the Matter with your Heart; it is all on one side; I now make it as strait and as good as it used to be, when we talked good words at the great Treaty at Easton.

A Belt of seven Rows.

"Brother:

"I now make the Road good by removing the Stumps and Stones, and I bend the great Trees down on one side, that the Road may always remain open, and there may be no more Uneasiness between us.

A black and white Belt of seven Rows.

"Brother:

"I must now acquaint you with the Business of my coming to Philadelphia.

"I am just come from a Treaty lately held with the Indians by Sir William Johnson, which has occasioned my coming here at this Time.

"Brother:

"I must tell you that We are quite Poor, and that our young Men cannot walk so far as Philadelphia for such Things as they want, and therefore we want a Store Keeper and a Gun Smith to live among us at our Town, the big Horn, by whom we may be supplied with Blankets and other Cloaths, and that we may conveniently get our Guns mended and repaired from Time to Time, and therefore, Brother, we request you will fix a Store and a Gun Smith there.

A Belt of six Rows.

"Brother:

"I am to inform you that I do not come now to Philadelphia of my own Accord; I am sent here by the Six Nations. Now, Brother, I fill your Pipe, and you must look towards our country; and when the Leaves come out in the Spring, or as soon as the Bark Peels, we and the Six Nations will come here to see you and speak to you, for we have a great deal to say to you.

"Brother:

"There was a Belt of Wampum sent up among us about a Year ago from Philadelphia, and we inform you that every thing has been done by us as you desired.

"Brother:

"I want to know at what Place we shall have a Treaty with you. There are two Fires; one of them is here, and the other at Easton. But we leave it to you to chuse where We shall meet you.

A Belt of five Rows.

"Brother:

"I have now finished what I had to say respecting the Business of my coming here; but I am to inform you that there are here among us a Cherokee Indian Man, his Wife and a Child, who are just come down the Susquehanna from Sir William Johnson's; and as they are desirous of returning home to their own country in the most expeditious manner, they request that the Governor will give them a Passport, that they may proceed to Carolina with Safety.

—

Monday the 8th of October, 1770.

The Return of Sheriff and Coroner from Cumberland County being now made, the Governor appointed and Commissionated

David Hoge, &	Sheriff,	of the said County.
William Denny,	Coroner,	

—

Council Chamber,

MEMORANDUM, the 14th of October, 1770.

A Committee of the Assembly waited on the Governor yesterday, and acquainted him that, pursuant to the Charter and Laws of this Province, a Quorum of the Representatives had met, and having proceeded to chuse their Speaker, desired to know when he would be pleased to receive the House, that He might be presented for His Honor's Approbation. The Governer having appointed this forenoon at eleven o'clock for that Purpose, acquainted the House by the Secretary that he attended his Appointment in the Council Chamber, and was ready to receive the House with their Speaker.

The Whole House waited on the Governor, and presented *Joseph Galloway*, Esquire, as their Speaker, who after receiving the Governor's Approbation, claimed the usual Priviledges in the Name and Behalf of the House; to which the Governor replied that he thought those Priviledges inherent in a Representative Body, and he should be careful to protect the House therein.

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Tuesday, the 16th of October, 1770.

The Governor sent the following Message to the Assembly by the Secretary, who at the same Time laid before the House a Copy of an Indian Conference therein referred to.

The Message follows in these Words, viz^t:

"Gentlemen:

"I have ordered the Secretary to lay before you a Conference I had on the sixth Instant with some Munsey Indians, charged with a Message from the six nations, informing me that they have a great deal to say to me, and requesting that I would hold a Treaty with them some Time next Spring. I have not been able to collect what particular Business they have to transact with us. Should it relate to matters which concern this Province only, and are not merely Objects of Negotiation between His Majesty and them, which, by the late Royal Regulations, fall within the Department of the Superintendants of Indian Affairs, Justice and good Policy, in my Opinion require, that we should comply with their Request in an Affair of such Importance, and which in its Consequences may be attended with a considerable Expence to the Public. I should be glad Gentlemen of your Advice and Assistance, and shall detain the Indians till I receive your Answer, which I request may be as soon as possible.

"During my Administration I have often been put to great Difficulties for want of Money to defray the Expences of such Indians as have applied to me from Time to Time in the Recess of Assembly, and have sometimes been under the Necessity of detaining them longer than I should have done on that Account, which has greatly enhanced the Public Expence. I think it would be to the Honor, as well as Interest of the Province, that a permanent Fund should be established for this Purpose. I therefore earnestly recommend this Matter to your Consideration, and hope you will make such Provision as you judge may be adequate to the Occasion, without Loss of Time.

"JOHN PENN.

"October 16th, 1770."

Wednesday the 17th of October, 1770.

Two Members of Assembly waited on the Governor and presented him a Message, which follows in these Words, viz^t:

"May it please your Honour:

"The House taking into their serious Consideration your Honor's Message of the 16th Instant, with the Minutes of Conference therewith sent by the Secretary, beg leave to remark that the House esteem it their Duty at all Times carefully to attend to the Complaints of Indians, and to apply every reasonable Means in their Power to keep them in good Temper and Harmony with this Government. But, as it does not appear by the present Application for a Treaty with this Province what is the Cause thereof, nor is it made with such Certainty or with those Ceremonies usually attending such Requisitions, We apprehend We should not at present be justifiable in burthening our Constituents with the great Expence which would attend a public Treaty. We therefore beg leave to recommend it to your Honor to confer further with the Indians now in the City, and if they can inform you of any Complaints the six nations or any other Indians have against this Government, or of any other Motive to desire a Treaty with us, the House will, upon being acquainted therewith, duly consider the same, and afford to your Honor such Advice and Assistance as the Nature of such Complaints or Motives may require. With regard to your Honor's Recommendation that the House would provide a Fund to defray the Occasional Expences of Indians coming to this City during the Recess of Assembly, we are of Opinion that the establishing such a Fund may be attended with Inconveniencies, as thereby Numbers of Indians will be encouraged to pay frequent and unnecessary Visits to Philadelphia, to the great Expence of the Province. And We look upon such an Establishment the more unnecessary as former Houses of Assembly have always chearfully discharged such Expences as have accrued upon like Occasions, and We presume your Honor may confide in it, that this, and future Assemblies, will readily defray any reasonable Charges that may be required for such Purposes.

"Signed by Order of the House,

"JOSEPH GALLOWAY, *Speaker*.

"October 17th, 1770."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Friday 19th October, 1770.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c^a.

William Logan,	Benjamin Chew,	Esquires.
James Tilghman,		

This being the Day appointed by the Board for the further Consideration of the Return of the new Road from Schuylkill to Strasburg, in Lancaster County, which was laid before them on the 26th of September last, there appeared at the Board, in consequence of Notice given them by the Secretary, a Number of the Inhabitants of Chester County, who had preferred Petitions against the Confirmation of it, and praying a Review, so that the Road might be altered, in order to accommodate them and others residing in the most Southern Parts of that County. They then made their several Objections to the Road as laid out, some complaining that the Road, by running through their Lands, cut their Fields and Mead-

The Message follows in these Words, vizt :

"Gentlemen :

"I have ordered the Secretary to lay before you a Conference I had on the sixth Instant with some Munsey Indians, charged with a Message from the six nations, informing me that they have a great deal to say to me, and requesting that I would hold a Treaty with them some Time next Spring. I have not been able to collect what particular Business they have to transact with us. Should it relate to matters which concern this Province only, and are not merely Objects of Negotiation between His Majesty and them, which, by the late Royal Regulations, fall within the Department of the Superintendants of Indian Affairs, Justice and good Policy, in my Opinion require, that we should comply with their Request in an Affair of such Importance, and which in its Consequences may be attended with a considerable Expence to the Public. I should be glad Gentlemen of your Advice and Assistance, and shall detain the Indians till I receive your Answer, which I request may be as soon as possible.

"During my Administration I have often been put to great Difficulties for want of Money to defray the Expences of such Indians as have applied to me from Time to Time in the Recess of Assembly, and have sometimes been under the Necessity of detaining them longer than I should have done on that Account, which has greatly enhanced the Public Expence. I think it would be to the Honor, as well as Interest of the Province, that a permanent Fund should be established for this Purpose. I therefore earnestly recommend this Matter to your Consideration, and hope you will make such Provision as you judge may be adequate to the Occasion, without Loss of Time.

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"Signed by Order of the House,

"JOSEPH GALLOWAY, *Speaker.*

"October 17th, 1770."

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PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c^a.

William Logan,	Benjamin Chew,	Esquires.
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Several of the Persons appointed to lay out the new Road also attended the Board, and replied to the Objections which were made, and they represented to the Board that, they had taken very great Pains to diſcover the best Grounds for the Road, so as to lay out the same as strait and level as the Nature of the Country would admit of and to do as little Injury to individuals as poſsible, and that, upon a careful Examination, they found the Country to the Southward of the laid out Road, so broken and Hilly in many Places as not to admit of a strait and tolerable Road through the same. There being but a small Board met, it was judged proper to postpone the further Consideration of this Matter till Saturday the tenth of November next.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Saturday 20th October, 1770.

Present,

The Honorable John Penn, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c.

William Logan Benjamin Chew } Esquires
James Tilghman

The Munsey Indians who spoke to the Governor on the sixth of this Month being desired to attend this Morning at the Governors House to receive his Answer, Meetham, the Chief, and ten other Indians, with Isaac Still, their Interpreter, appeared at the Board accordingly, when the Governor spoke to them as follows, viz.t

Brethren,

I am glad to see You here, and by this String of Wampum I bid you welcome, and wipe the Sweat and Dust from your Bodies which you have contracted in coming down on your Road here. I am now going to speak to You in answer to what you said to me a few Days ago, and by this String open your Ears and Eyes that you may see me clearly, and hear distinctly what I have to say to You. I also cleanse your Throats, that what I speak may have a free Paſsage to your Hearts. — A String

Brethren,

You told me you were come from Welawanung, or the big Horn, where you live and keep a great Fire, and that as you came along you observed the Road to be much obstructed with Dirt and Nastineſs, and very Bloody; that you swept all the Dirt and Filth away, and cleansed all the Blood from our Bodies and Houses. You also told me you saw a great many of our Brethren's Bones lying about on the Road, in different Places; that you collected them together, and carried them out of the Road to a Place where no Person had ever been, and buried them under the Roots of a great Tree, so deep that neither any of us, nor our Children, nor Grand Children, may ever see them again, or know where they were buried. —

Brethren,

It gives me great Concern to think there should be any Blood or Bones of our Brethren, or Friends, lying scattered on the Road and unburied at this Time; I thought they had been buried long ago. I know I did every Thing on my part to bury them, and to wipe away the Tears from the Eyes of their Relations and Friends, and remove the Sorrow from their Hearts, by my Meſsages and Belts sent to Sir William Johnson on that Account, with a Quantity of Goods to cover their Graves, and I have been since informed it was regularly done, to the Satisfaction of all Relations and Friends concerned. I now heartily join my Hands with yours, and remove all the Blood from the Roads, and wipe all Places clean that have been sprinkled or stained with it; and I collect together and bury all their Bones, so deep under Ground, that neither you, nor we, nor any of our Children or grand Children may ever see them again, or know they ever lay there. —

A Belt

Brother,

You tell me there is something the Matter with my Heart, that it lies all on one side; that you make it strait and good as it used to be, when we talked good Words together at the Treaty at Easton.

Brethren,

I am sorry you should think there is any thing ~~wrong~~ in my Heart; I am afraid some evil Spirit has been whispering something that is not true in your Ears. Be aſsured my Heart is good and sound and full of Love for all my Brethren the Indians. It does not lie on one side, as you say, but in the Middle of my Breast; I have nothing but good-will for my Brethren, and you may always depend on this, that when my Mouth speaks good Words to You they always come from my Heart.

A Belt

Brethren,

I thank you for removing all the Stumps and Stones from the Road, between your Towns and this City, and for clearing away the Bushes and every other Thing that stopped it up. I do by this Belt join you in making that Road so clean that nothing shall remain in it that can hurt the Feet of any of my Brethren and Friends when they travel it, and so clear that We may see each other from our own Houses. A Belt

Brethren,

I am sensible of the great distance you now have to travel to Trade and supply yourselves and your Families with Blankets, and other Neceſsaries. Agreeable to your Request, I will speak to and encourage some of my People to come and build a Store House among you to supply you with every Thing you may want to buy, and to endeavour to get a Smith to go with him to mend your Guns. —— A Belt

Brethren,

You tell me you don't come down here of your own accord, but that you are sent by the six Nations, and desire me to look towards your Country, that you and the six Nations desire to come down next Spring, to see and talk with me; that you have a great deal to say to me, and would be glad to know whether I should chuse to receive you here, at our Council Fire, or at Easton.

Brethren,

The Six Nation Indians, and others of our friendly Indians have been told by Sir William Johnson, that He, and He alone, has a Commiſsion and Order from our Great King, on the other side of the great Waters, to hold Treaties and confer with Indians; and that when they want to speak any Thing that is in their Hearts, he has told them they must come to him and speak first to him.

Brethren,

It will always give me Pleasure to see my Brethren the Indians, when they have any Thing in their Hearts to say to me, but as Sir William Johnson is appointed by the Great King to confer with all Indians to the Northward and Westward, I cannot now fix any Time or Place to meet and confer with You in a Treaty, till I have wrote to Sir William Johnson, and mentioned your desire to him. This I shall do immediately, and, when I receive his Answer, I shall send a Meſsenger to You, on Purpose. In aſsurance of which I give You this Belt. ——

A Belt

Brethren,

I thank You for the Care You took in delivering my Meſsage and Belt sent You about a Year ago, and to hear that every Thing was done agreeable to my Desire.

Brethren,

I desire You will inform our Brethren the six Nation Indians, and others of our Friends, that I cloathed the Cherokee Indian, and his Wife and Child who came down with You, and sent them by Water to South Carolina, and gave him a Letter to the Governor there, desiring him to take Care of him, and send him the shortest and safest way to the Cherokee Town where he lived; This I did, because it would be much easier and safer for him than to travel all the way by Land, through the several Governments; and I am aſsured the Governor of Carolina will take great Care of him.

A Belt.

Brethren,

You tell me you are poor and desire me to look on You as such. I have always been ready to aſsist my Brethren the Indians when they stand in need of my Help. I aſsure you Brethren I am at present very poor myself: The Cloaths I generally give the Indians are all made on the other side the Great Waters: The Ships that bring them before Winter sets in, are not yet arrived, so that there are very few Blankets or any Indian Goods in this Town; what few I could find in Town I have bought and now give you, and hope they will keep you warm this Winter, and desire you to accept them as a mark of my Love and good-will towards you

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New Castle, Tuesday 23 of October, 1770.

Three Members of Aſsembly waited on the Governor with a Meſsage from the House, acquainting him that they had met on the 20th of this Month, pursuant to the Charter and Laws of the Government and had proceeded to chuse their Speaker and desired to know when and where they should wait on him to present him for His Honors Approbation; And the Governor having answered that he should be ready to receive the House immediately at Mr Clays they accordingly attended there and presented John Vining Esquire as their Speaker who after being approved by the Governor claimed the usual Priviledges ows in such a Manner as would do them great Injury, and others asserting that a straiter and better Road might be laid out, leading in a direct Course from Strasburg to the Middle Ferry on Schuylkill, leaving the Ship Tavern on the Lancaster Road about four miles to the Northward, which would not only be more convenient for the People of Strasburg and other parts of Lancaster County, but also be of much greater Use and Benefit to those of Chester County in general.

Several of the Persons appointed to lay out the new Road also attended the Board, and replied to the Objections which were made, and they represented to the Board that they had taken very great Pains to discover the best Grounds for the Road, so as to lay out the same as strait and level as the Nature of the Country would admit of, and to do as little Injury to individuals as possible, and that upon a careful Examination, they found the Country to the Southward of the laid out Road so broken and Hilly in many Places as not to admit of a strait and tolerable Road through the same.

There being but a small Board met, it was judged proper to postpone the further Consideration of this Matter till Saturday the tenth of November next.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Saturday 20th October, 1770.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

William Logan, Benjamin Chew, James Tilghman, } Esquires.

The Munsey Indians who spoke to the Governor on the sixth of this Month, being desired to attend this Morning at the Governor's House to receive his Answer, *Meetham* the Chief, and ten other Indians, with Isaac Still, their Interpreter, appeared at the Board accordingly, when the Governor spoke to them as follows, viz^{t}:

"Brethren:

"I am glad to see you here, and by this String of Wampum I bid you welcome, and wipe the Sweat and Dust from your Bodies, which you have contracted in coming down on your Road here. I am now going to speak to you in answer to what you said to me a few Days ago, and by this String open your Ears and Eyes that you may see me clearly, and hear distinctly what I have to say to you. I also cleanse your Throats, that what I speak may have a free Passage to your Hearts.

A String.

"Brethren:

"You told me you were come from Welowanung, or the big Horn, where you live and keep a great Fire, and that as you came along you observed the Road to be much obstructed with Dirt and Nastiness, and very Bloody; that you swept all the Dirt and Filth away, and cleansed all the Blood from our Bodies and Houses. You also told me you saw a great many of our Brethren's Bones lying about on the Road in different Places; that you collected them together, and carried them out of the Road to a Place where no Person had ever been, and buried them under the Roots of a great Tree, so deep that neither any of us, nor our Children, nor Grand Children, may ever see them again or know where they were buried.

"Brethren:

"It gives me great Concern to think there should be any Blood or Bones of our Brethren or Friends lying scattered on the Road and unburied at this Time; I thought they had been buried long ago. I know I did every Thing on my part to bury them, and to wipe away the Tears from the Eyes of their Relations and Friends, and remove the Sorrow from their Hearts, by my Messages and Belts sent to Sir William Johnson on that Account, with a Quantity of Goods to cover their Graves, and I have been since informed it was regularly done, to the Satisfaction of all Relations and Friends concerned. I now heartily join my Hands with yours, and remove all the Blood from the Roads, and wipe all places clean that have been sprinkled or stained with it; and I collect together and bury all their Bones so deep under Ground that neither you, nor we, nor any of our Children, or Grand Children, may ever see them again or know they ever lay there.

A Belt.

"Brother:

"You tell me there is some thing the Matter with my Heart; that it lies all on one side; that you make it strait and good, as it used to be when we talked goods words together at the Treaty at Easton.

"Brethren:

"I am sorry you should think there is any thing wrong in my Heart; I am afraid some evil Spirit has been whispering some thing that is not true in your Ears. Be assured my Heart is good and sound, and full of Love for all my Brethren, the Indians; It does not lie on one side, as you say, but in the middle of my Breast; I have nothing but good will for my Brethren, and you may always depend on this, that when my Mouth speaks good words to you they always come from my Heart.

A Belt.

"Brethren:

"I thank you for removing all the Stumps and Stones from the Road between your Towns and this City, and for clearing away the

Bushes and every other Thing that Stopped it up. I do by this Belt, join you in making that Road so clean that nothing shall remain in it that can hurt the feet of any of my Brethren and Friends when they travel it, and so clear that we may see each other from from our own Houses.

A Belt.

" Brethren :

" I am sensible of the great distance you now have to travel to trade and supply yourselves and your Families with Blankets and other Necessaries. Agreeable to your request, I will speak to and encourage some of my People to come and build a Store House among you, to supply you with every Thing you may want to buy, and to endeavour to get a Smith to go with him to mend your Guns.

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" Brethren :

" You tell me you don't come down here of your own accord, but that you are sent by the six Nations, and desire me to look towards your Country ; that you and the six Nations desire to come down next Spring, to see and talk with me ; that you have a great deal to say to me, and would be glad to know whether I should chuse to receive you here at our Council Fire or at Easton.

" Brethren :

" The Six Nation Indians and others of our friendly Indians, have been told by Sir William Johnson, that he and He alone, has a Commission and Order from our Great King on the other side of the great waters, to hold Treaties and confer with Indians, and that when they want to speak any Thing that is in their Hearts, he has told them they must come to him and speak first to him.

" Brethren :

" It will always give me Pleasure to see my Brethren, the Indians, when they have any Thing in their Hearts to say to me, but as Sir William Johnson is appointed by the Great King to confer with all Indians to the Northward and Westward, I cannot now fix any Time or Place to meet and confer with you in a Treaty till I have wrote to Sir William Johnson, and mentioned your desire to him. This I shall do immediately, and when I receive his Answer I shall send a Messenger to you on Purpose ; In assurance of which I give you this Belt.

A Belt.

" Brethren :

" I thank you for the Care you took in delivering my message and Belt sent you about a year ago, and to hear that every thing was done agreeably to my Desire.

"Brethren:

"I desire you will inform our Brethren, the six Nation Indians, and others of our Friends, that I cloathed the Cherokee Indian and his wife and Child who came down with you, and sent them by Water to South Carolina, and gave him a Letter to the Governor there, desiring him to take Care of him, and send him the shortest and safest way to the Cherokee Town where he lived. This I did because it would be much easier and safer for him than to travel all the way by Land, through the several Governments, and I am assured the Governor of Carolina will take great care of him.

A Belt.

"Brethren:

"You tell me you are poor and desire me to look on you as such. I have always been ready to assist my Brethren, the Indians, when they stand in need of my Help. I assure you Brethren, I am at present very poor myself. The Cloaths I generally give the Indians are all made on the other side the Great Waters. The Ships that bring them before Winter sets in are not yet arrived, so that there are very few Blankets or any Indian Goods in this Town; what few I could find in Town I have bought and now give you, and hope they will keep you warm this Winter, and desire you to accept them as a Mark of my Love and good will towards you."

New Castle, Tuesday 23d of October, 1770.

Three Members of Assembly waited on the Governor with a Message from the House, acquainting him that they had met on the 20th of this Month, pursuant to the Charter and Laws of the Government, and had proceeded to chuse their Speaker, and desired to know when and where they should wait on him to present him for His Honour's Approbation; and the Governor having answered that he should be ready to receive the House immediately, at Mrs. Clay's, they accordingly attended there and presented John Vining, Esquire, as their Speaker, who, after being approved by the Governor, claimed the usual Priviledges, which were allowed, and then they withdrew.

—

Eodem Die.

A Committee of the Assembly waited on the Governor and acquainted him that the House were duly qualified, and desired to know if His Honour had any Business to lay before them; to which the Governor replied that he had none at present.

I have not had any late Letters from the Secretary of the Society. I wish that good Body would adopt the Salutary advice you have given them; which would enable them to be further useful.

I hope you will pardon this long Epistle; and, be assured that I am, worthy Sir, with great sencerity & truth.

Your much obliged & most obt Servt

Sir William Johnson. **Samuel Auchmuty.**

SIR WM JOHNSON TO THE REVD DR. AUCHMUTY.

Johnson hall May 27th 1770.

Sir, I thank you most kindly for your Letter of the 20th by our Friends Dr Cooper & Mr Inglis whom I very highly Esteem & in whose Society I have spent many agreable hours during which we have Conversed much on the affairs of the Church, Their Speedy return prevents me from Saying much to you by this opportunity. I cannot however avoid agreeing with you in the truth of your Remarks on the present unhappy state of affairs, which greatly contribute to check the growth & prevent the Success of the National Church, I hope the Government will at last discover the Importance of giving it all possible Countenance, & that whenever party shall so far Subside as to enable them to act without the apprehension of giving offence to others its Enemies, that they will afford it the required support.

I most kindly thank the Convention for the favorable sentiments they entertained of my endeavors in the Cause of our Religion, and I assure you & them, that I shall omit no opportunity for demonstrating the sincerity of my attachmt thereto, by promoting its Interest as far as my little Interest & abilities shall Enable me, at the same time wishing that we may spedily hear more agreable news from England & Assuring you that I am always with great Truth Sir &c

Dr Auchmuty.

SIR WM. JOHNSON TO THE REVD MR. INGLIS.

Johnson hall Novr 1770.

Dear Sir. I was lately agreably favored with your Letter of the 25th ulto accompanied with your pretty present for your Godson the Indian Boy, which with your Letter to his father was received with Extraordinary marks of Gratitude and Thanks, so that it would be hard to say which were best pleased, The Boy with his finery or the parents with that Token of your remembrance & the Letter which they think greatly of, The Father was greatly distressed how to Express his thanks to you but at last wrote the Letter wch I now enclose, and after Lamenting that it was not in his power to make you a return suitable to his Inclinations he begged that I might send you a Leathern Lap Decorated & which he gave me for that purpose adding that as he had worn it often in the field, when in Arms against our Enemys, it might still be considered as an emblem of his attachment.

I sincerely wish that the Indians desires as Expressed at the late Congress joyned to my Strong recommendations may awaken the attention of Government to affairs of Religion, which under such auspices would soon flourish and Expand. The Information you gave me concerning, the appropriating the Quit rents to these uses, is I apprehend a matter that may rather be wished for, than Expected, as the Quit rents are greatly encreased by so many late Grants, and altho' they are but very irregularly paid must far Exceed the Sum you Mention, however if you could procure the ann^{l} amount of them, and let me know it, I shall consider it farther, and see Whether there may not be some prospect of Success from such an application.

As to the Nova Scotia Mission, when I consider, the Small number of the Indians, and their present dependant state there, together with its being made in consequence of their threats, I can hardly think that the Government will disregard the entreaties of a people whose power and Capacity so far exceeds those of Nova Scotia, and whose friendship & alliance is so much more interesting to us.

It must have been thro' hurry that I neglected giving you in my former Letter, the Numbers of the other Indians which I am well acquainted with. The Onondagas can muster about 200 fighting Men, The Cayugas about 260, The Senecas, including those of this about 1000. but there are besides, many of every Nation Settled with other Tribes at and about the Suquehanna &ca which if added to their respective Nations would encrease the number, and the Tuscaroras, alone since the last body of them came from the Southward to Joyn the rest may now [make] abt near 250. so that the Whole of the Six Nations without including any others will Amount to 2000 fighting Men, by which the Number of souls may be calculated in the usual manner.

I am sensible that Example will go farther than precept in the Introducing Arts or Mechanics amongst them The advantage of which they will daily grow more sensible of. D^{r} Wheelock has been so sanguine in these matters that he has made no advances worth mentioning in that way whatever may be reported, as to Smiths they are so necessary to them that they would readily admit them and indeed they were formerly allowed them in their villages at the Expense of the Government, & perhaps Carpenters might also be agreable for if these Mechanics were well inspected & Confined solely to their Trades, (which is a very difficult matter to effect) some of the Indians would doubtles be allured in a little time to apply themselves to Arts so usefull to themselves, & their proficiency in one or Two Arts, beyond which we should not go in the beginning would prepare them to receive others which at present are not necessary to their manner of Living—Tho' farming would be a most necessary acquirement, and which I believe they may be brought to in Time. Yet I fear it cannot be attempted, such Arts as are necessary to their present mode of Life will not alarm them, but any that will tend to introduce a Change therein, must be deferred for a time, as there is nothing which they so much dread as the alienation of their peoples minds from those pursuits & Exercises by which alone they apprehend that their Liberties are preserved.

I thank you for the political hints you gave me, and presume that by this time the Disposition of our Governor is better known, being inclined to think that he will not fall into the hands of any designing party.

Before Closing my Letter M^{r} Stuart arrived & delivered me your favor of the 23^{d} ult^{o}. I had seen him before he went for Orders, and believe him to be a discreet, sensible man, The Mohocks being now almost all abroad on their Winter hunt, He cannot enter upon his Mission with Effect for some little time, he is to be Introduced to those that are at home immediately, and I shall direct him in the means of beginning to acquire their Language, without delay as it is so Essential to his Success, of which I have not the Least doubt if Conducted properly to which end my advice and endeavors shall be always Chearfully bestowed. I have a few Lines by him from D^{r} Burton wherein is mentioned the Societys approbation of and allowance to M^{r} Hall, to be fixed at Conojoharee until he has taken Orders. The design is good, and I wish he was now there to enter upon it—I have built a handsome Church there at my own Expence[1] Tho' I had been promised the assistance of others but the times did not admit of it, and as that village is equal in zeal & attachment to the Mohocks and is 30 miles farther up the Country, Mr Halls establishment & success there will contribute greatly to enlarge the design of the plan, and to point out its benefits to the public, which so soon as these persons are properly Seated and have acquired a share of the Language and Confidence of the Indians, may be so far Extended as to comprehend all that can be wished for, to form one vast & Generous design.

It is extremely probable that a War with Spain is not very distant, and indeed I believe it is Covetted by many people but Spain will have powerfull alliances, and without great Care France, may give us fresh trouble in America, particularly thro' the Influence they still retain over so many Indian Nations. I am much obliged to the worthy Dr Johnson for his kind remembrance and sincerely wish him all happiness. My Son, who desires his Complements to you purposes to visit N York soon Col: Johnson also desires to be kindly remembered, and be assured that I am always with perfect regard

The Revd Mr. Chas Inglis. Dear Sir &c.

SIR WM. JOHNSON TO ARTHUR LEE ESQ., M. D. F. R. S.[2]

ON THE CUSTOMS, MANNERS AND LANGUAGES OF THE INDIANS.

Johnson hall Feby 28th 1771.

Sir, I should be wanting in duty to the public if I withheld from a Gentleman of Dr Lee's Character any information I am capable of affording on the subject of yr Letter wch thro' my Absence from home havg been some time in the Ind. Country & since entirely occupied with affairs of a public nature, it was not in my power to ansr till now.

I am only apprehensive that any account in my power respecting such enquirys amongst the unlettered Indians will prove inadequate to the Expectations formed in your Letter, notwithstanding my long residence in this country, ["of more than thirty eight years,"] the Nature of my office and the most diligent enquirys into these curious particulars, I find all researches of that sort for reasons which I shall give presently involved in such difficultys & uncertainty as to afford but slender satisfaction. At least far short of my inclination to gratify your desire thereon—how

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[1] An account of monies expended by John Danl. Muller in building a Church at Canajobary, for the use of the Indians by the direction of the Honble Sir William Johnson. £459.1 1

[2] Arthur Lee was born in Virginia on the 20th Dec. 1740. He was sent at an early age to Eton, and afterwards to the University of Edinburgh, where he obtained his degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1764. He returned to his native country where he practised his profession for a short period, but soon went to London and entered the Temple with a view of being called to the bar. Here he became the associate or correspondent of the principal literary and scientific men of the day, and was elected Fellow of the Royal Society. Previous to the Revolution, he acted as agent in England for the Provinces of Massachusetts and Virginia, and in that capacity acquitted himself as a zealous and sound friend of American liberty. In 1776, he was appointed, conjointly with Dr. Franklin and Silas Deane, Commissioners to France on the part of the United States, and assisted in negotiating the Treaty between these countries. He returned to America in 1780 and in 1784 was appointed one of the Commissioners to treat with the Six Nations. He executed this trust at Fort Schuyler, (now Rome, Oneida Co.) with much credit. He died, unmarried, Dec. 12, 1792, aged nearly 52 years. He was a distinguished scholar, and a statesman, rigid in principle and unsullied in integrity. His life by R. H. Lee, was published in 2 vols. 8vo. in 1829.—Ed.

Sir

I had the honor of informing your Excellency in my Letr of the 10th ulto that I had sent the Interpreter to the Genesee Village desireing some of the Sachems of the ~~Genesee~~ Seneka Tribe to come in here, that I might relate to them the Affair that happend on the 12th of said Month when the Indns fired on the Soldiers in the Battoe They accordingly arrived here on the 30th with their Colours &ca and soon came to my Quarters, The Particulars of what happend that, and the following Days I have now the honor of incloseing to your Excellency

I must observe to your Excellency that I very seriously Considerd with myself, and even consulted last night with the Officers of the Garrison with regard to the Expediency of giveing up the Prisoners, and we were all of Opinion that the Indians might be induced to revenge the detaining of them on some of our Frontier Settlements, and in the end perhaps bring on an Indian War, a thing always to be avoided

I therefore in Speaking to the Chiefs & Warriors this day Studyed to keep up the dignity of the Soldier in not yielding to the request of their Warriors, and endeavourd as much as possible to answer them in their own Stile, And upon the whole I am extreamly happy that the affair has taken such a Turn, as I fully am perswaded that what has happen'd will make them more cautious for the future, as they have seen that a thing of that kind will not be pass'd unnoticed

The Conductor at this Place begg'd of me to Inclose his memorial to your Excellency, He is a quiet good man, and I believe what he setts forth is true.

Before Lieut. Pfister left this place he Asked me to Sign the Engineers Accot.

for the Works done here last Season, which I declind doeing for the reason given Your Excellency in my letter of the 21st Septr He than told me that I would be blamed for refuseing to doe it, and would be oblidged to make up to him what losses he might sustain from my refusial. I told him that I would not act otherways than I had formerly told him, — The Gentlemen Employed in that Department appear to me to aim at Independency and seem very Jealous of their Department. Things may be situated in such a manner that the Consequences may be bad when they are Independent of the Commanding Officer of a Post

I have the honor to be with the utmost respect

Your Excellencys
Most obedt and most
humble Servant

Niagara 2 Novr 1770 John Brown

His Excellency
General Gage —

P.S. I have wrote to Sir Wm: Johnson and i
him a Coppy of what passd with regar
the Indians — J. B.

Captn: Brown 2d: Batn:
60th Regt: —
Niagara Novr: 2d 1770.
Received Novr: 24th
Inclosing a Talk with the
Seneca Indians on acct: of a
soldier wounded by some of
their nation
Memt: of Mr: Hereford
Conductor of Artillery
Ansd: 21st: Jany
1771.

[illegible] 11-2-70

Particulars of a Talk at Niagara 30th October 1770, Betwixt Captain Brown of His Majestys 60th Regiment, Commanding the Garrison, and the Chiefs of the Seneka Tribe of Indians, in presence of the Officers of the Garrison and Traders at Niagara.

The Seneka Chief Spoke, and said, that he had received a String and Belt of Wampum, desiring him to come to Niagara, and bring some of his Sachems along with him to hear News, that according ly he was come with them, and that their Ears were all open to hear what was to be told them. — Returned the String and Belt sent.

Captain Brown then Spoke, and told them that he had always look'd upon them to be Friends, That whenever any of them, or their Wives and Children, were in Distress for want of Provisions or otherways, he always did what was in his Power to relieve them.

2 Mentioned to them that there had been mutual agreements betwixt all His Majestys Subjects and them, always to communicate any news that pass'd, or any thing extraordinary that happen'd —

3 Informed them that Eighteen Days ago, five of their People went to a Traders Tent near Fort Erie, became very troublesome, Obliged the Traders to leave the Tent, afterwards plundered the same; and that four of them carried off the Traders Battoe to an Island in the River.

That the Traders Observing from the Beech, one of the Garrison Battoes coming down the River with Soldiers, haild them, and Begg'd the Corporal Commanding the party to carry them to the Island that they might get their Battoe, which he agreed to.

That on landing on the Island, the Traders Seized their own Battoe with some things belonging to them and Push'd off.

That the Indians begged of the Soldiers to Ferry them to the main, which they did, and immediately left them in a Friendly manner.

3 That on the Soldiers Rowing from the Shore, the four Indians took their Arms and Fired upon the men in the Battoe; Shot one man through the Body with a Ball, and wounded others slightly with small Shot.

4. Said that five Days after, he heard that the same party of Indians was come to Niagara, That he went to them and took them to see the man whom they had Shot through the Body; that the wounded man knew them, and that they acknowledged having Fired on the men in the Battoe, but pleaded that they were in Liquor.

Informed them that his Duty Obliged him to confine them and acquaint the Commander in Chief and Sir William Johnson of the affair; that while Prisoners he would supply them with Victuals and Drink — adding that if any Soldier, or any other person under his Command, did the Smallest hurt to any of the Indians, he would have punished them in the same manner.

The Seneka Chief then laid on the Floor a large Belt of Wampum, and said, that that Belt was given them by the King Seven years ago, That there was a plain Road upon it, a Silver Road Betwixt Niagara and their Country, that whenever any Trees or other things fell upon it, it must always be cleared again; That when any little things happened, they should not quit their hold of Friendship, but still keep their Hearts good, and that every thing was good amongst them, and that he Spoke from his Heart,

2 - Produced another Belt of Wampum, and said that Rum was the Devil; that white People made the Rum; That their People always left their Castles with good Hearts; That when they got Rum, they lost their Senses and did not know what they did — Adding that, that Belt was to wipe off the Blood

and over the same, and that it should be forever buried in Oblivion -

Gave the Belt.

3 - Produced a String of Wampum, and said, that their Hearts were Still good, and that he hoped ours were likeways so -

Gave the String.

4 Produced another Belt, and said that they were our Neighbours; That they sent their People to Niagara in the same manner as they would send a Child from their Huts to fetch Water; That some of their Children had come here; that they were now shut up; that they desired that they might be given up to them -

Gave the Belt.

31st October 1770. The Indians &ca. present as above, with some Mississawe Chiefs at the request of the Senekas.

1 Captain Brown Spoke and told them, that the Road betwixt him and them was open and clear; that whenever any thing obstructed it he would clear it away; that he would not quit the firm hold of Friendship he had with them -

2 Produced the Belt received the Preceding Day, given for wiping off the Blood, and said, that when Blood was lost either by white People or Indians, he was always sorry for it, that the Soldier had lost a great deal of Blood, and that it was very doubtfull whether or not he would ever recover - Returned the Belt.

3 Produced the String received the preceding Day, and said he was very glad to find that their Hearts were good, and that they Spoke Sincerely; That his Heart was good notwithstanding what had passed: That he did not blame the Chiefs for any thing that had happened, that he only blamed the persons that Fired upon the Soldiers.

Returned the String

4 Produced the Belt requiring the Prisoners, received the preceding Day, and said, that he look'd upon them and all their People as his Friends and Neighbours; But that he had given over the Prisoners to the Commander in Chief and Sir William Johnson, and that it was them that must Settle the affair; and that if any of the white People had Shot any of them, he would have dealt with them in the same manner

Returned the Belt.

5 Produces a new Belt of Wampum, and said, he had four of t
Children Confined, that he Still was Sorry for the cause of it, an
altho' it was now out of his Power to deliver them back, that be
only in the Power of the Commander in Chief and great men o
the Country, yet he would Still treat them well, by giving the
Victuals and Drink, and a little Tobacco to Smoak; that they
hear from them as often as they pleased, and that when any of
Sachems came to Niagara he would always allow them to
the Prisoners; that the Road from Niagara to their Country i
as open and clear as ever; that when any Logs fell in the Ro
would always clear them away, and keep bright that Chai
Friendship, that had so long subsisted, and that he would b
ways glad to see them with their Wives and their Children.

Gave the Belt.

The Seneka Chief Spoke, and said, that when he received the m
at his Castle to come to Niagara, he thought the affair would ha
ended in a Different manner, for had he imagined it would
ended so, he would have taken another Road, but desired
next Day.

1st November 1770. Senekas present as the preceding Day.

The Chief Spoke and said, Captain Brown had told him h
heart was good, repeated what was said on the Belt he had re
yesterday — adding that he did not imagine, that the Soldie
lie.

Laid down the Belt on the Floor.

2 Produced another Belt and said, that the King had to
English, at the last meeting at the German Flats, that they s
not do any mischief to his Islands, meaning the Six Nation
wherever any bad thing happened, such as any of his People
Killed, he always went himself to Bury the Dead; that ab
months ago a man of his own Flesh and Blood had been Th
that Colonel Croghan made up that affair, and no farther n
was taken of it, and that his heart was still good; said Cap
Brown had told them that he was no more master of the affa
why he had then, taken them Prisoners — added that he had g
him his own Name, and that Captain Brown was always t
care of good things, and that he expected that he would have der

in Original 11-2-70

6th on this Occasion; that it was him that had Secured the Prisoners and not the great People below.

That he was the first that had ever locked up Indians, that the Firing upon the Soldiers was owing to Rum; that the King had Recommended peace all over, and had taken the Hatchet from them, even from the Flat heads, and that Peace prevailed every where; that he hoped Captain Brown would open the Prison Door, and that if he did not he would go home and call his People together, and that it was better to open the Door -

Gave a Belt — adding that he had done Speaking, but did not know what the Young People had in their Hearts

The Chief Warrior then Rose up with a Belt in his hand and after taking Captain Brown by the hand, said that the Sachem had Spoke softly and mildly; that he was a Warrior, and Spoke for himself and the Warriors, that he hoped the Prisoners would be delivered up, and that Captain Brown would awake out of his Sleep and get Sober. That what had happened was Occasioned by Rum, and if Captain Brown did not open the Prison doors they would dispute it with their Warriors; that they still Commanded the Lands, Concluding that he was a Warrior, and was ready for every thing.

Delivered the Belt.

2d November 1770.

Senekas &ca Officers Soldiers and Traders present as the preceding Day, and Assembled in the Church.

Captain Brown produced the Warriors Belt and told them that he had Considered well what they had said to him the preceding Day, That his Eyes were open and his Head clear and his Heart good, and that he always Spoke from the Heart, said he was not to be forced by any thing they could either say or do to deliver up the Prisoners to them, that he excused the Warm way they had Spoke, as the Prisoners were of their own Flesh and Blood;

But that he and the Officers and Soldiers present were likewise Warriors as well as they, and had often been at the War, that they had every thing of their own that they had Occasion for, that they did not Stand in need of any Assistance from them, and could live without them; But that they wanted every thing necessary for war, and even for their own Subsisting they were Supplyed by the English, as they had neither Guns, Powder or Ball nor Blankets to cover them — adding at the same time, that the King desired that all his Subjects and the Indians Should live together like Brothers; that he and all present wished that it might be so

Returned the Warriors Belt.

Next Spoke to the Sachems and said.

That he now Spoke to them in the House where he addressed the great and good Spirit who never told lies and punished all those that did, or who Committed bad actions, said it was their Business to prevent the young men from getting Drunk, as they knew when they Drank Rum, they lost their Senses and did bad things; that he had informed the General and Sir William Johnson of what had passed; that the Soldier the Prisoners had wounded, was Still alive and perhaps might recover.

That he was always ready to listen to the advice of the Sachems who managed good affairs, that he had Spoke to the Doctor, who informed him, that long Confinement might impair the health of the Prisoners; that he still loved the Nation having the same Name with the Chief (which he himself had given him) and that if they the Sachems would promise to him in presence of the Officers, Soldiers and Traders then present, that in case the Soldier Should die they would deliver up the Prisoner who had Shot him, to Sir William Johnson he would in that case open the Prison Doors and give the Prisoners up to them, and that he would acquaint the Commander in Chief and Sir William Johnson of what he had done, and of their promise — adding that he would still live with them as Brothers of one Family, having the same name, and that he would always be glad to see them with their Wives and Children.

The Sachems agreed to the Terms and left with Captain Brown the Belt that they gave the preceding Day as a pledge of their promise.

On which Captain Brown sent for the Prisoners who were brought to him, and caused repeat to them the Conditions on which they were given up and gave them over to the Sachems, after taking them by the hand; at the same time informing the Sachems that some of the Prisoners had been at Fort Erie on the morning that the affair happened & had been released by the Commanding Officer there, altho' he had no allowance from the King for giving them any thing, and recommended to them for the future to look upon that place and Niagara as the same.

The Chief Sachem then addressed the Warriors saying, now you see how things are, it is not on your account that the Prisoners are given up, the great man in the Fort, could have shut his Gates and kept you all out; if he had done so, what would have become of both you and us; it is we the Sachems that has prevailed upon him to give up the Prisoners, then addressed the Warriors to be very carefull of their behaviour, and not drink so much, for that when they were in Liquor they could not distinguish betwixt good and bad, and that if they did bad things they must expect to be punished for it in their familys ~~[illegible]~~ &ca

The Chief Warrior then addressed the Sachems, saying we thank you for it is owing to you that our men are given up — adding that he was very glad that Captain Brown had given the Prisoners to the Sachems; For that they the Warriors were all fools, and had no Sense when compared to them, when we g a little Rum says he, we are more apt to listen to bad news tha Good; we would be much to be Pitied if we wanted your Coun continue to give us good advice, you have Sense and we are Yo and Ignorant, but will always be glad to listen to your Coun Then told the War Chiefs that whenever they headed any party . Should always give their men good advice, Desiring them to do any mischief to their Brothers the English, and Conclude thanking Captain Brown again and again for his goo in giving up the Prisoners to the Sachems.

The meeting broke up by taking of hands in Friendly manner

Niag. 2d Novr 1770 The above and preceding was Spoke and Interpreted

John Brown Cap
Regt Commg at Niag

I shall Endeavor to execute any thing that your Excellency may think necessary during his absence, and communicate any Material Intelligence that may come to my hands. —

I have the Honor to be, with great respect
Sir, Your Excellencys
most Obedient &
most humble Servant
G. JOHNSON

His Excellcy.
LIEUT. GENERAL GAGE

INDORSED:

Mr. Guy Johnson Depy.
Indn. Agent
Octr. 18th. 1770
Received Octr. 27th.

TO GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A.L.S.[1]

Johnson Hall Novbr. 5th. 1770

DEAR BANYAR —

On my Return from the Six Nation Country a few days ago, Your favour of the 1st. Ulto.[2] with the Patent for the 1400 Acres was delivered to me by Col. Johnson[3] with whom Mr. Wallace[4] left them, I am glad to find by Sd. letter that the 3 Patents for the Half Pay Lands are Issued, as are the 2 Gentlemen here namely Claus & Mc.Leod whom I made I acquainted with it. please to send Lt. Roberts Patent to Me & I will pay the Fees of it for him as he is in England, The other Two will pay their own. — As

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[1] In New York Historical Society, Banyar Papers.

[2] Not found.

[3] Guy Johnson.

[4] Hugh Wallace.

You dont mention any thing of the Tract between Scohare & the Mohawks, which the Inds. gave to a Number of Officers who served in my Department, & wh. I wrote You some time ago that I would pay the Fees of, they are uneasy least a Disapointment should happen, pray let me know in yr. next how that affair is. When all is finished Send me a particular Acct. of the Fees of Each Patent, and I will settle it without delay. — You have I beleive forgot to return my Bonds. If Mr. Adems is Still at York, it will be a good opertunity to Send them by him. —

The Deed I got Signed by all the Cheifs of Oneida for the *Oriskane* Tract, with the Receipt for £425 which I paid them for a quit claim lyes in my Hands, & I shall be glad to be advised what to do wth. 'em, & that the Said Sum be paid, as I shall want it for the payment of Fees there at Yrs., & other offices. How is it with regard to the Sums due to me by those concerned in the Oneida Tract, wh. You were so kind as to Say You would collect for me? —

I am daily Settling People on my long Tract alias *Adageghteinge*, but am at a great loss for the want of the Draft or Survey of it, which I wrote for Several times, will You be so good as to get it from Mr. Colden & Send it me? Also the Release from You & Mr. Wallace for the Thousand Acres at & about *Adigo.* — Some Years ago the Indians gave me 4 Miles in length, & two in Breadth along the *Adageghteinge* Creek, running from the old place of Beginning near the 2 Roads, up the Sd. Creek towards the Source thereof, in lieu of the Lands below *Tianaderra* which I gave up to them, & which I mentioned formerly to You & Mr. Wallace, & expected it would have been included in the Patent, & Mr. Wallace assured me that it was, but upon examining it, I find it is not so, be pleased to let me know how that happened and what can be done in it, as I would not if possible loose that part, it being good land, and besides that, I have Sold one thousand Acres of it to an able German, who was the first Settler there. —

I thank you for the news you wrote me, & rejoice to hear that everry thing there has been carried so Successfully by our freinds, and I heartily wish they may always Succeed against a Party whose principles are bad, & dangerous to Government.

We are anxious to hear how his Lordship will Act.

I am with Sincere Regard,

Dear Banyar
Your Real Welwisher
& Humble Servant
W. JOHNSON

GOLDS BORROW BANYAR Esq^{r}.

INDORSED:

November 5, 1770

From Sir William Johnson

FROM DANIEL CAMPBELL

A.L.S.[1]

Schenectady the 16th. November 1770

DEAR SIR

I must Ask your Pardon for not Answering Your letter Sooner — but — Could not well do it as M^{r}. Abrham Fonda was not at Home, from whom I bought most part of the Wheat — I have Settled it in Such a way that you are not to have any more of it. without any loss to you — I am verry Sorry for the aniss Crop, had I been buying for my own use I shou'd have been deceived in the Same maner —

The Quantity which You had I am informed is Two hundred Schiples which was at four Shillings p^{r}. Schiple, which I shall Charge you with — No London Vessels in yet but two, but a Great many hourly Expected. no news here — I am Dear Sir with the Greatest Respect

Your most Obedient Humble Servant
DANIEL CAMPBELL

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

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[1] In New York State Library.

INDORSED:[2]

Novbr. 16th. 1770

Major Dl. Campbels letter

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[2] In Sir William's hand.

FROM JAMES RIVINGTON

Copy[1]

Appendix to a Letter from James Rivington to Sir William Johnson, dated *November 19, 1770.*

The following is an extract from the Letter I received per paquet from England:

Rogers talks very high of his usages and demands large terms, — to be created an English Baronet, and have £600 a year, with a Majority in the Army, or he would not be Silent. They have given him all his pay as Governor of Michilimackinac, to this time, but they have paid the accounts of the Expedition, and Boats he sent from the above mentioned Post, to make discoveries in the back countries, to one Carver.[2] Mr. Fitzherbert, who is his friend, says he will give him something, for with his cursed impudence he hums[3] all the great people, and I firmly believe he will succeed beyond what every one in America, who knows him, could expect.

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[1] Printed in *Journals of Major Robert Rogers*, p. 257. The letter without the appendix is in the *Johnson Papers*, 7:1015.

[2] Jonathan Carver, whose travels were published. — Hough's note.

[3] A "hum" (obsolete) is an imposition or hoax. — Hough's note.

CXVII

Lieut.-General Thomas Gage to Earl of Hillsborough (No. 51)

10 November, New York
My Lord, I had not time to answer your lordship's letter [Vol. II, No. LXXVI] No. 32 by the opportunity of the last packet but have since taken the contents thereof into consideration, and in obedience to your lordship's commands I now take the liberty to trouble you with the reflections that have occurred to me and the opinions I have formed as well on the state of the British possessions upon the Mississippi as on forts and settlements in general in the interior country.

The French first adopted the plan of forts and settlements in the Indian country in the view of forming a communication between their colonies of Canada and Louisiana, of seizing the passes that command the entrance into those countries and conciliating the affections of the savages, by means of which they might prevent the King's subjects having any intercourse with the Indians, secure all the commerce to themselves, and when convenient excite the Indians to make incursions on the British provinces. The nations approved of their proceedings because they appeared to be calculated merely for their use and benefit. Priests were sent to convert them and though they made but few sincere Christians yet by rendering them little services and taking pains to please they insinuated themselves into their favour and had a great influence over their actions. The forts were small and only fortified in the Indian manner, the soldiers were few and the settlers not numerous, but being trained to Indian war were able to defend themselves; they soon learned the Indian language, hunted with the natives, and became almost one people with them. By these means the French succeeded and at a small expense; the Indians, not jealous of their power, became attached to them and averse to us.

Now the forts and settlements are in British possession, other systems are adopted and other benefits are supposed to be derived from them, for we want no communication between our provinces, we have no rivals in our trade to be kept out of the country, except the people of Louisiana are deemed such, and we have not in view the spiriting up the savages to annoy our neighbours.

The advantages we are now supposed to reap by maintaining forts are: the protection of the trade, defending the traders from the violence and insolence of the savages, and preventing frauds and impositions on the part of the traders; the keeping up of friendly intercourse with the Indians; the keeping them in awe, the forts enabling us to carry war into the heart of their country; the drawing the attacks of the savages from the settled country and saving it from incursions in time of war; the preventing their joining the French in case they make attempts to recover Canada; the supporting the old British subjects in their trade who might be drove away to favour the Canadians; and where settlements are made, the keeping the settlers in subordination to government.

Those who argue in favour of the settlements allege that they are foundations of new colonies, which would form barriers to the present frontiers, give room to the people in the lower provinces to spread, and prevent their settling together in such numbers as to encourage them to manufacture, that wine, silk and other commodities might be raised in those countries, and that the settlers could raise provisions for the garrisons and save the expense of sending it up to them.

Having enumerated every benefit I have heard of, that is supposed to accrue from forts or settlements in the interior country, I shall proceed to give your lordship my sentiments upon each article, without regard to any opinions I may have formed heretofore which a farther consideration or longer experience shall have satisfied me to be erroneous.

If the forts were marts of trade as first intended they should be, and the traders confined to trade there only, it might be truly said that they protect the trade. But experience evinced the impracticability of confining the trade to the forts. The number of posts requisite to taking all the trade would be more than could with any propriety be supported. Both Indians and traders opposed the regulation and when the officers obeyed their orders the Indians quarrelled with them, and the traders threatened prosecutions, quitted the posts privately, and passed them without calling, and some of them now ramble to the distance of 500 leagues beyond our farthest post. Except Missilimakinac, where the Indians from long custom resort to for the sake of the trade during part of the summer, it may be said no trade is carried on at any of the posts; for the few skins picked up from savages who come on business to the commanders or to get presents is no object. The traders send their canoes amongst the nations.

As the officers receive the Indians kindly, give them every satisfaction in their power if injured, make them small presents, and assist them with provision, it is certainly giving them a testimony of our regard and showing a desire to cultivate their friendship; but this is doing no more than what might be as well effected by skilful Indian officers posted judiciously amongst the nations in the manner practised in the Southern District.

Notwithstanding many instances of insolence and bad intentions in the savages, and the murders they have often committed as well on soldiers as traders, the forts may tend to keep them in some sort of awe, though by it we destroy that confidential friendship we wish to establish with the Indians. The forts are now by far more respectable than when first established by the French; the Indians look upon them as bulwarks erected in their country with a design to subject them. It is true that being deposits of military stores, they facilitate the carrying war into the heart of the country, though it may be a question whether that service is not obtained at too great an expense. The necessity of military enterprises in those distant countries can scarcely happen, with proper skill and management on our part, and even should they be judged necessary, they might be undertaken from below, from whence we should now be obliged to send reinforcements of troops and provisions in case of an attack upon any of the forts.

It is not a just idea that distant forts draw the attention of the savages from the settlements in time of war. Reasons might be given against it, but it is sufficient to say that experience has proved it groundless. Forts Pitt, Ligonier, Bedford, Littleton, and Cumberland, did not protect Pennsylvania and Virginia in the late Indian war. The savages fell upon and destroyed many settlements in both those provinces, and pushed their incursions as low as Shippensburg and Winchester. And, granting that the Indian nations would either through policy or attachment declare for the French if they made an attempt upon Canada, it is much to be doubted whether the forts would not in that case be more detrimental than useful to us. We might be necessitated to send part of our force to support the forts that could be employed to more advantage below, and, diverted from the main object, protect the shadow when we should employ all our force to defend the substance. For your lordship may be assured of the truth of this maxim, whoever commands the country below will always rule the country above. From thence the trade flows and the Indians cannot do without it. The Detroit and Missilimakinac fell with Canada, and had they not been included in that capitulation there is little reason to believe otherwise than that the savages would have delivered both into our hands in a short time.

The competition for the trade between His Majesty's old and new subjects is greatly abated and must by degrees entirely subside, for if carried to extremes it would be very prejudicial to both. And with respect to the mother country, she will gain all the peltry brought to Quebec, whether it is carried thither by Britons or Canadians. I am of opinion indeed the forts have kept the French settlers in subjection, and if the settlers can't be removed or such a government established over them as to render troops unnecessary, that forts may be said to be of use to ensure their obedience.

As to increasing the settlements to respectable provinces and colonisation in general terms in the remote countries, I conceive it altogether inconsistent with sound policy, for there is little appearance that the advantages will arise from it which nations expect when they send out colonies into foreign countries. They can give no encouragement to the fishery; though the country might afford some kind of naval stores, the distance would be too far to transport them; and for the same reason, they could not supply the Sugar Islands with lumber and provision. As for the raising of wine, silk or other commodities, the same may be said of the present colonies without planting others for the purpose at so vast a distance. But on the supposition that they would be raised, their very long transportation must probably make them too dear for any market. I do not apprehend the inhabitants could have any commodities to barter for manufactures except skins and furs, which will naturally decrease in proportion as the country increases in people and the deserts are cultivated, so that in the course of a few years necessity will force them to provide manufactures of some kind for themselves. And when all connection upheld by commerce with the mother-country shall cease, it may be suspected that an independency on her government will soon follow. The pretence of forming barriers will have no end wherever we settle, however remote there must be a frontier, and there is room enough for the colonists to spread within our present limits for a century to come. If we reflect how the people of themselves have gradually retired from the coast, we should be convinced they want no encouragement to desert the sea-coasts and go into the back-countries, where the lands are better and got upon easier terms. They are already almost out of the reach of law and government. Neither the endeavours of government or fear of Indians has kept them properly within bounds, and it is apparently most for the interests of Great Britain to confine the colonists on the side of the back-country and to direct their settlements along the sea-coasts where millions of acres are yet uncultivated. The lower provinces are still thinly inhabited and not brought to the point of perfection that has been aimed at for the mutual benefit of Great Britain and themselves. Although America may supply the mother country with many articles, few of them are yet supplied in quantities equal to her consumption. The quantity of iron transported is not great, of hemp very small, and there are many other commodities not necessary to enumerate which America has not yet been able to raise, notwithstanding the encouragement given her by bounties and premiums. The laying open new tracks of fertile territory in moderate climates might lessen her present product, for it is the passion of every man to be a landholder and the people have a natural disposition to rove in search of good lands, however distant. It may be a question likewise whether colonisations of the kind could be effected without an Indian war and fighting for every inch of ground. The Indians have long been jealous of our power and have no patience in seeing us approach their towns and settle upon their hunting-grounds. Atonements may be made for a fraud discovered in a trader and even the murder of some of the tribes, but encroachments upon their lands have often produced serious consequences. The springs of the last general war are to be discovered near the Allegany Mountains and upon the banks of the Ohio.

It is so obvious that settlers might raise provision to feed the troops cheaper than it can be transported from the country below that it is not necessary to explain it. But I must own I know no other use in settlements or can give any other reason for supporting forts than to protect the settlements and keep the settlers in subjection to government.

I conceive that to procure all the commerce it will afford, and at as little expense to ourselves as we can, is the only object we should have in view in the interior country for a century to come, and I imagine it might be effected by proper management without either forts or settlements. Our manufactures are as much desired by the Indians as their peltry is sought for by us. What was originally deemed a superfluity or a luxury to the natives is now become a necessary. They are disused to the bow and can neither hunt nor make war without firearms, powder and lead. The British provinces only can supply them with their necessaries, which they know, and for their own sakes they would protect the trade, which they actually do at present. It would remain with us to prevent the traders being guilty of frauds and impositions and to pursue the same methods to that end as are taken in the Southern District. And I must confess, though the plan pursued in that district might be improved by proper laws to support it, that I don't know a better or more economical plan for the management of the trade. There are neither forts or settlements in the Southern Department, and there are both in the Northern Department, and your lordship will be the best judge which of them has given you the least trouble, in which we have had the fewest quarrels with or complaints from the Indians.

I know of nothing so liable to bring on a serious quarrel with Indians as an invasion of their property. Let the savages enjoy their deserts in quiet, little bickerings that will unavoidably sometimes happen may soon be accommodated. And I am of opinion, independent of the motives of common justice and humanity, that the principles of interest and policy should induce us rather to protect than molest them. Were they drove from their forests, the peltry-trade would decrease, and not impossible that worse savages would take refuge in them, for they might then become the asylum of fugitive negroes and idle vagabonds escaped from justice who in time might become formidable and subsist by rapine and plundering the lower countries.

I have given your lordship my opinion concerning forts and settlements in general in the distant country, and shall now proceed to treat of the British possessions on the Mississippi and matters relative thereto, which is more particularly the subject of your lordship's letter.

Establishments at the junction of the Ilinois and Ohio Rivers with the Mississippi may be said in a general view to command two passes which might in a great degree prevent the inhabitants of Louisiana from intruding their merchandise amongst the nations in His Majesty's territories, though they could not prevent their having a correspondence with those nations or belts and messages being sent from the one to the other. But it will be proper to consider the damage we do or may sustain through the want of such establishments, and whether any emoluments would arise from them adequate to the expense of forming them and afterwards of supporting and maintaining them.

The Ilinois River is of little consequence, having no powerful nations dwelling upon it, and leads only up to a tribe of the Pouteatamies at St Joseph, a licentious people who have often done mischief but they always receive their supplies from Canada.

The Ohio leads up to the Ouabache on which river there is a good deal of trade, and some boats sent by the British traders from the Ilinois to St Vincent on the lower part of said river were plundered because those Indians, it was said, would permit none but French traders in their town. But I have not learned particularly whether the French traders who supplied them with goods were from Louisiana or Canada. I am apt to believe from the last place, because the Canadians have at all times traded in those parts and sold their goods cheaper than the people from Louisiana were able to do. I am certain the trade is now carried from Canada into the Ouabache, it goes up the Miamie River which falls into the west end of Lake Erie, and by means of a short portage gets into the Ouabache. A person is appointed to manage the portage and receives a regulated price for the transporting of goods, packs of peltry and canoes, to and fro over the portage. It may be thought that the foreign traders from the Mississippi might go higher up the Ohio and carry all the commerce of that river as far as Fort Pitt, but it never has happened or can happen whilst we are at peace with the nations on the rivers. The British traders have always dealt with them, carry them the assortments they are most accustomed to, and can afford their goods cheaper than any others.

The finest and greatest quantity of peltry to be acquired on the Mississippi is in the upper parts of the river, many leagues above Fort Chartres. The traders from the Spanish side of the Mississippi and from Canada go for it amongst the upper nations. The Canada traders push up the Renard or Fox River which falls into the *Baye des Puants* in Lake Michigan, and passing over a short carrying-place fall upon the Ouisconsin, which runs into the Mississippi. But the British traders at the Ilinois remain at Fort Chartres or its neighbourhood; they are afraid to venture up the river because the French as they allege have spirited the Indians against them. And the only peltry that I can find they have gained hitherto has been from the domestic Indians and from such savages as have been drawn to the fort by invitations, the allurement of presents, and curiosity. The idea which may in some degree be just that the more peltry would be gained in proportion as we should move higher up the river has given rise to a new proposal about posts. Instead of erecting a post at the mouth of the Ilinois River, it has been recommended to build one above it, upon a spot said to be advantageous for the trade. This is a very expensive mode of trade and I fear would cost more than the trade is worth. While the traders from the Spanish side and from Canada carry their goods amongst the nations, few will come to posts merely on the account of trade, and it is the business of the British in the Ilinois to court and insinuate themselves into the affections of the Indian tribes as the French have done. And considering the time we have been in possession of the Ilinois, if they had made proper efforts towards it instead of leaning entirely upon the support of government, and that our presents had been dealt out with as much judgement as liberality, I think some of the nations would have given them their protection.

The peltry gained by the traders from Canada, whether on the Mississippi or the Ouabache, we may be satisfied generally goes down the St Lawrence River to Quebec; it has been the usual tract of those traders from the beginning and there is no reason to suspect the contrary now. But the British traders of the Ilinois who carry their goods above three hundred miles by land before they have the convenience of water-carriage cannot afford to return the same way with the produce of their trade, and it's possible that the fear of Indians or the want of bark-canoes, not to be had to the southward, and the only craft proper for shallow waters and transporting over portages, may have prevented them from sending it to Quebec. As they do send their peltry down the river, we may conclude upon the whole they found that route the cheapest and most expeditious; they can navigate the Mississippi with the same craft they navigate the Ohio or may find means to embark their peltry in the boats returning to New Orleans. As it appears to be their interest to go down the Mississippi, I know of no means to compel them to change their route for on the supposition that the best regulations were devised and enforced to that end, the extent of woody country to guard, and the vicinity of the Spanish settlements so favourable to a collusion between the traders of both nations, would probably defeat our greatest vigilance. I may observe here that the vicinity of the settlements of the two nations will also be favourable for either to smuggle goods into the territories of the other, from whence it may be imagined that the merchandise which is sold cheapest, whether British or foreign, will predominate in that country.

The method your lordship has pointed out to lure the trade going down the Mississippi into a British port by the aid of a canal to join that river with the Ibbeville I believe to be the most effectual that can be devised, and that it would answer many desirable ends if the canal would have the effect pretended by those who argue in favour of it. They say, by cutting a channel from a point, upon which the Mississippi strikes with violence, to the Ibbeville, that the former would in a short time make itself a new bed and possibly change its course.

It is said on the other side that the practicability of the scheme is very doubtful and in all events could not succeed without a vast expense. If the cut is made only deep enough to introduce the waters when the freshes come down, it would be of no more use than the present overflowings into the Iberville. And also that there is a heighth of land, nine miles in length, between the upper part of the Ibbeville and the River Amite and unless the canal is continued to the junction of the Amite and cut as deep as the bed of the Mississippi at low water, the waters will naturally flow back into the Mississippi in the manner they do now when the freshes subside. It is to be considered likewise that the Ibbeville with the Lakes forms one side of the Island of New Orleans, the Spaniards will naturally object to our carrying on any works on their side especially as they are works which may be prejudicial to them. And if the channel, though cut, should be narrow, they might throw more obstructions into it in a few days than could be removed in months.

I have taken pains to be informed of the possibility of making a canal that would be of real use but I have not procured anything satisfactory concerning it. Lieutenant Pitman's report ought to obtain as much credit as that of any other person, but I believe the levels have never been taken nor the soils examined nor the project in general considered upon the spot with that accuracy and intelligence that it deserves. And I am of opinion that an intelligent person skilled in works of the kind and whose report is to be depended on should examine the country and make an estimate of the expense, before anything is undertaken. If any such person can be found in West Florida, I have desired Brigadier Haldimand to send him to inspect the country and to examine into the project.

Your lordship observes that Fort Chartres appears to be little better than a mere mark of possession. I cannot assign any other use it is of farther than what has been said of other forts near to settlements, that it keeps the inhabitants in subjection. And can't help thinking it would have proved more fortunate for us had we found neither fort nor settlement in the Ilinois country. And from what I have laid before your lordship concerning the Ilinois and Ohio Rivers, I am of opinion the advantages we might propose to gain from civil and military establishments at the mouths of those rivers would be greatly disproportionate to the expenses they would be attended with.

Besides what has been related of the French settlements, they had another view in establishing the Ilinois. The country abounded in buffalos and the climate is more favourable for wheat than the lower parts of the Mississippi, and they proposed from thence to supply New Orleans with salted meat and flour which, unless procured from the British colonies, they were obliged to send from Europe. I conceive this circumstance would be of no advantage to the King's subjects, was New Orleans added to His Majesty's possessions.

I have given your lordship the best information I have been able to obtain of the forts, settlements and commerce of the interior country, and in obedience to your commands I have ventured to give my reflections and opinion thereupon. Should it be necessary to elucidate any part that may appear obscure, or if there are any particular points your lordship may wish to have farther explained, you will please to point them out, that I may give your lordship all the satisfaction in my power on these important objects. *Signed.* [C.O.5/88, fo. 164]

CXVIII

Lieutenant.-General Thomas Gage to Earl of Hillsborough (No. 52)

12 November, New York

My Lord, your lordship has been informed of a very considerable congress holding at Siota by the Indians of the Western confederacy. The spies sent thither are returned to Fort Pitt and report that all the Western tribes, even those over the Lakes and about Lake Michigan as well as the nations of the Ouabache, had unanimously agreed to make peace with the Cherokees and other Southern Indians; which the deputy Indian agent confesses he thought impossible to be accomplished and writes that the spies inform him some Frenchman had promised and engaged to bring the nations about the Ilinois, Missouri and Arkansas into the league; that the French have been very active the last spring and summer, telling the Indians the usual story of the designs of the French and Spaniards to make war upon the English who want to get possession of their country through the influence of the Six Nations, which they readily believe from seeing our settlers straggle so far in pursuit of lands.

The Indians of the several nations who came afterwards to the fort behaved orderly, but appeared more sulky and reserved than usual and were holding councils and sending belts constantly from one nation to another, the meaning of which the agent could not discover, but they told him it was only to promote peace among themselves.

The officer commanding at Fort Pitt has sent later advices than the former, in which he acquaints me there never was since he commanded there so many parties of warriors from the Six Nations passing to the Cherokee country, who demand provisions and ammunition and tell him Sir William Johnson informed them they would get everything they wanted at the fort, as formerly, and appear greatly affronted if the advantages we might propose to gain from civil and military establishments at the mouths of those rivers would be greatly disproportionate to the expenses they would be attended with.

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How all these commotions will terminate, time only can show, but there is a great appearance of war between the nations confederated in the Northern and Southern leagues, both of which are powerful; and unless the messengers sent by the first, at the desire of Sir William Johnson, meet with success in their embassy, it is likely that hostilities will soon commence. The Western tribes are exasperated to a great degree against the Six Nations for the lands they have ceded, and their resentment created the project of confederating to be able to withstand their power. The storm would probably have burst upon ourselves if His Majesty's Indian officers had not had dexterity enough to avert it by spiriting up the Six Nations to support what they had done and to maintain their superiority over the dependent nations, and this gave rise to the Northern confederacy in opposition to the other. They are both desirous of gaining the Cherokees, who from the proceedings of Sir William Johnson's late congress on the Mohock River, appear to have engaged with the Northern nations. And in these circumstances I think it fortunate that the Virginians were not permitted to extend their boundary lines farther than the Cherokees were willing they should.

I give your lordship the state of these Indian affairs as well as I have been able to learn or comprehend them, and wish we may extricate ourselves out of the quarrel. The nations of Ohio who conceived and contrived the Western league are most affected by the cessions made to us, being nearest to our frontier, and it's not unlikely, if hostilities begin, that rage and resentment will tempt them to fall upon the people settled upon their hunting grounds.

We have just had the pleasure of hearing from Boston that Captain Preston is acquitted after a trial uncommonly long, the proceedings of which I presume will be transmitted to your lordship from Boston. Some people have since attempted to bring an appeal of murder against him, as likewise suits for damages on account of the wounded. The first was ineffectual, but he is obliged to confine himself on account of the latter. The soldiers will be tried in about fourteen days.

Captain Preston has been prosecuted with great malice and has suffered much during a long confinement in a loathsome dungeon as well as in his finances, which are greatly exhausted by the cost of his trial. And as he has not rashly or wantonly brought these misfortunes upon himself, but fallen into them unavoidably in the actual execution of his duty, your lordship will pardon me in the liberty I take to recommend his case to His Majesty's royal consideration.

Being informed the state of affairs at Boston will be laid before the Parliament the ensuing sessions, and that many printed depositions have been circulated in England by people a good deal concerned in the disturbances that have happened, I take the liberty to transmit your lordship a number of depositions [Vol. I, No. 709i-lxxiv] of the 14th and 29th Regiments, taken in Castle William and New Jersey, containing many instances of the highest provocation and severest usage given the troops, previous to the unhappy accident upon the 5th March.

The engineer employed at Castle William hopes to finish the works carrying on there and to complete the plans and sections thereof by the end of this month. *Signed.* [C.O.5/88, fo. 174]

CXIX

Governor Earl of Dunmore to Earl of Hillsborough (No. 2)

12 November, New York

My Lord, nothing of a public nature has occurred within the little time I have arrived except the addresses of congratulation on my arrival, which being full of sentiments of loyalty and affection to His Majesty's person and government I have thought proper to send copies [Vol. I, No. 710i-xiii] of them, imagining they might be acceptable. I found the Assembly prorogued to the 7th of November, and I have with the advice of Council farther prorogued it till the 11th of December then to meet to do business.

The situation of the people of this province in the counties of Cumberland and Gloucester on the borders of New Hampshire is truly lamentable; a number of disorderly people are continually committing riots; a recent tumult has obliged me to issue a proclamation for apprehending the offenders, a copy [Vol. I, No. 710xiv] of which is herewith transmitted to your lordship, but the authority of the civil magistrate will avail little when even the courts of justice are obstructed and their proceedings stopped. The rioters are instigated to commit those outrages by the people of New Hampshire, suggesting that the magistrates and courts of justice established in the said counties act without good authority, for they assert that His Majesty intends to recall his royal order, already issued, and to declare the abovesaid two counties to be within the jurisdiction of the province of New Hampshire. Your lordship will observe by the proclamation already mentioned that I have contradicted this report and affirmed the above suggestion to be false. Their only encouragement in this opinion seems to be the restrictions laid upon the governor of this province with respect to granting the lands within the said two counties; and here I cannot but observe what in truth is very obvious that such restriction obstructs the settlement of that country not only by excluding fresh people from settling there, but the frequent disorders, which it has given a sort of sanction to, entirely prevents the industrious efforts of those already settled. It therefore appears to me that it is become highly necessary that the said restriction should be taken off forthwith, that I may thereby be enabled to exert my endeavours for the full settling of that country, and then the disorders complained of will of themselves subside; but which at present cannot happen from the thinness of the inhabitants, there not being enough for the appointment of magistrates, consequently those few are but very insufficient of themselves to enforce their own authority against those daring violators of the peace, supported as they are by their whole province.

I have made it my business to enquire and to find out the opinion of people here on the scheme in agitation of establishing a colony on the Ohio. I find all who have any knowledge of such affairs concur in

Sir Fort Pitt Decr 27th 1775

I mention'd in my last Letter to your Excy dated Novr 24th that a number of Shawanese and Delaware Indians were Collecting themselves at this Post, in order to deliver many Speeches to the Six Nation Indians and me, from several Western Nations, and as Thomas King with a number of Deputys from Sr William Johnson and the Six Nations with the Cherokees were hourly Expected, and two of the Shawanese Chiefs not come, the meeting was Oblig'd to put off till the other Day, when a great Counsel was held —

Enclos'd are the Minutes I kept of the proceedings for your perusal, in which your Excellency will see, the Demands Thomas King and his Party made, of being furnish'd with Clothing, and such other Necessarys they wanted, to Enable them to proceed on their Embassy.

On those Demands being made, I thought it my Duty to write to Mr Croghan to Come to the Fort, in order to provide such Clothing and Necessarys they realy stood in need of, which Indeed were a Considerable deal, for I never beheld such a number of Naked Wretches. I Suppose they Drank Every Stich they had as they pass'd through the Indian Country —

Mr Croghans answer to my Letter I send your Excy after perusing Thomas Kings Pass, a Copy of which I inclose your Excy, and seeing the Immence quantity of Wampum which they were Charg'd with in Speeches from Sr William Johnson and the Six Nations on His Majestys Service, I found it impossible for me, to get off furnishing them — This is an Expence Very Much against my Inclination, tho it is Absolutely Necessary.

As soon as the Meeting was over, the Chiefs of the Shawanese and Dellawares, gave me to Understand that the Deputys they had Employ'd to go amongst the Western Nations to promote Peace, Expected I would also consider them as well as the Six Nations; as they had lost their Hunting Season by being Employ'd on publick Service. They said they did not ask any thing for them Selves, or those who had not been Employ'd. This with great Reluctance, drew me into an Additional Expence; as I Could not Refuse them, without making a Distinction, which must raise their Jelousy for I am Convinced they think the English take too much notice of the Six Nations, and despise them, and the Western Tribes.

I hope my Conduct on this Occasion may meet with Your Approbation. I Can only Assure Your Excy that I have only given what was Absolutely necessary to keep them Warm. The Expence amounts to £300 Pennsylva Currency for which I have drawn in favour of the Merchants who furnish'd the Goods; and Enclose Your Excy the Vouchers. That if this Expence is to be paid by the Indian Department, Your Excellency may settle it with Sr Wm Johnson.

Before I Close my Letter I take the Liberty to Recommend Doctor Hand Surgeons Mate to the 18th Regiment, to Your Excellency, he has had a great deal of trouble Attending on the Indians, and in particular in Recovering the Indian Shot by one of the Soldiers and several who were wounded by the Virginians at Redstone Creek and Cheat River. As an allowance was formerly made for their necessary service I am Convinced no Person Ever took more trouble than Doctor Hand.

As Mr Croghan is unwell, the Indians Came to me.

just now, to desire that your Exc:y would inform Sir William Johnson, of what has pass'd here.

I am Sir
Your Excellency's
Most Obed:t and most Humble
Serv:t
Cha: Edmonstone

S:r Will:m Dec:r 27. 1767.

Received Jan:ry 10:th 1768.

Transmitting

a Letter from M:r Croghan –

Minutes of Proceedings with the Indians. —

Acc:t of Milligan & M:c Clure for Presents

D:o of Eneas Mackay for D:o

Copy of S:r W:m Johnsons Rep:s to the Dep:s of the N:o Confederacy to the Western Indians. —

Answered

in Edmonstone Dec. 21. 1770

Minutes of Proceedings with the Indians

Decr. 1st Thomas King and his Party of Six Nations and Cherokee Chiefs call'd me to a Council and gave me their pass from Sir Willm. Johnson and Made the following Speech—

Brother, on Reading that pass you will see that my self and this party are employed on the Great Kings Service to Settle a General Peace with all Indian Nations, and you must Remember that I was employed upon the Same Service to the Cherokees Countrey above two years ago by Sr. William Johnson and the Six Nations, Sir William Johnson had no goods When we parted him to Cloath us, but told us we would get what we wanted here from you as we had before and that the Paper we gave you would get us what we Stood in need of you See we are very Naked and have yet a long way to go and the Weather very Cold, therefore must request you will give us Sufficient Cloathing to keep us Warm that as Soon as we have had a Council with the Shawanese & Delawares here we may Proceed upon our Journey to the other Nations in Order to Collect them together in the Spring in the Shawanese Country; there were not So many of us when we Set off, but as the Bussiness we are going upon is very heavy—we have been joined at every Village we came by, to Strengthen our Councels. Gave me a String of Wampum

4th.... I made Answer to Thomas King and his Party and told Them —— I would Cloath them and give them Some Powder and Lead.

10th —— The Shawanese Chiefs came & Encamped with the Party that had been here before

13th Decemr Custaloga and a Party of Delawares came and Incamped with those of that Nation who have been here Some time.—

16th —— The Shawanese came to me and desired I would send for Mr Croghan.—

18th The Shawanese called me, the Six Nations and Delawares to Councel and after Smoking the Calumet of Peace one of the Chiefs Said directing his Speech to the English and Six Nations.——

Bretheren, what we are going to say to you upon these Several Belts is from all the Nations of Indians to the Sun Seting; you Say you are the Oldest and wisest Nations of Indians in this Great Iseland; now listen to what your youngest Brethren says to you.—

It is now five years ago Since you came here and went to the Sun Seting to promote Peace with all Nations and make the Road Smooth and easey to Travell Since that time we have heard nothing from you, tho you have been always meeting and talking together; you desired us the Shawanese to prom: the good Work of Peace with all the Nations to the Sun Seting, which we have done and now will deliver you their Speeches.—

From the Western Nations.

They then delivered Mr Croghan two Speeches thanking him for all the good Speeches he made to them when he was in their Country. 20.

After this they derected their Speeches to the Six Nation and delivered Thomas King a Number of Belts and Strings from the Western Nations with a Calumet of Peace the purport of all which was that they had all Unanimously taken a Resolution to Promote Peace with all Nations and had in Edmonstone Dec. 21. 1770

laid down the Hatchet which they had formerly used ~~against~~ against the Cherokees and aſuring them that all Nations to the Westward and Southward was now in Strict union and friendshipe and was looking towards the Six Nations as they ware always in Counceel with the English, to know what they had been about..

After this the delivered Several Strings and Belts With a Pipe from the Warriors of the Western Nations to Thomas King all of which was to the Same Purport as above

Then they delivered me a Speech desireing that I might attend to what they had Said and to promote the good Work of Peace as the English and Six Nations had begun it.

The Speaker of the Shawanese Said we have delivered the Speeches of all the Western Nations as they have all chosen us to Speak for them, and you know that in formes times you Brethren the Six Nationes and English kindled a Counceel fire in our Country and disired us to talk with all those Nations to the Westward, we have now accomplished what we undertook and all those Nations have dresed up our Counceel fire where you and them can Speak together and we Shall be glad to know what you Wise People have done as it is a great While Since we have heard from you, for our People that went to your Country and to Sir William Johnson was there made Drunk so that they could not tell us aney thing.

20th Decr The Indians being Aſembled and Callumet of Peace being Smoked I made an Answer to the Particular Speech made me the 18th and gave them a Belt.

Than Mr Croghan made answer to the Particular Speeches Made him on the 18th and Delivered them a Belt. Than Thomas King begun and made Several Speeches atresed to

the

Six Nations and English Particularly one after another and
Belts and Strings for every Belt the Western Nations spok
As soon as Thomas King hade done answering there sever
Speches he opened the several bags of Council Wampum wi
Which he was Charged from the Six Nations Cannada Ch
and Sir William Johnson and Spread them on the Table, t
was a very great Quantity above one Hundred Belts and a
quantity of Strung Wampum, he then Said Brethern y
now See the Speeches of the English Six Nations the Can
Confedracy and all other Nations to the Sun Riseing I an
going to tell you what they say on them, but to Show yo
am come on Bussiness of much Consequence, when I go to
Siota plains and kindle a Councel fire their, you Shall kn
of every Belt and I disire you my Brethern the Shawanes
Send for the Westren Confedrecy and all other Westren Na
Nations to me and my Party of the Six Nations and Che
and Cannada Deputys as early in the Spring as they Poss
can for I must tell you that we represent the Englis
Six Nations and all other Nations to the Sun Riseing an
whole Cherokee Nations, and we are going to your Country
Confirm a lasting peace with all Nations of Indians t
Sun Seting that is willing to Embrace it, and any Nati
Brethren that Refuse to com into this General Con
Must expect to be Struck by us, tho: our disire is to p
Peace & Tranquality with all Nations to the Sun Setin

9

m Edmonstone Dec. 27. 1770

Decr the 3 . 1770 to Edmonstone 12-27-70

Sir

This Morning I was faveord with yours Inclosing thomas Kings speech & pass from Sir William Johnson I am Sorry that a fitt. of the Gout prevents mee from Waiting on you to hear what ye Shawnas & Delaways have to Say as well as thomas King & his party, they have been with Me & find there is above 40 of them; I understand they have brought two from Each Village they past & are to Take Some Indian here with them in order to Strenthing their Councels & Complete ye Generall Union

To Capt. Edmonstone

which has already Taken places with all the Southern & Northern Nations as I have before Informed. you & No doubt this Deputation with them as this will Confirm all, & to unite all ye Indian Nations & Tribes in this Country into one General Confederacy

you Desire Me as Sir William Johnsons Deputy to furnish them with what they Want, I Can Assure you I have No orders to Make any Extraordinarys for the Indian Department, if I had I would Do itt as itt apears from Sir William Johnsons Letter that they are going on Bussiness of Much Importance on his Majesty's Service, Butt as I have No orders you Cant Expect Me to Make

Such an Expence without Its True as you observe I did Make a Considerable Expence Last Summer Butt itt was att a Time when things was In Great Confusion & I had then Some Expectations of being Reimburst. Butt find I was Mistaken wherefore I Cant think of Involving Myself any farther for ye publick Last night one of ye Shawnee Cheifs Lodg. att my house & Inform. Me that a few Days before he Left home Some of their people Return. from ye Chickesaw Country & says they Saw in ye Mississippi below ye Mouth of Ohio about 40 Large boats full of Spanish Troops & Several French & Indians whome they Knew in ye Late Warr proceeding towards Fort Chartres this

Information apears very od, whe
the Spaniards shod want in that
Country with Such a Number of m
as forty boats wod Contain howev
this Indian Insists that ye acount
True I am Sir yr Most
Humle Servt
Geo: Croghan

To
Capt. Dunnstone

in Edmonstone 12-27-70

Permit the bearer Thomas King, an Oneida
Cheif with his party now going on Buſineſs of
much importance to the Wabaſh & other Indians,
(In Consequence of the Resolution taken by the Six
Nations, & Canada Confederacys, & also the Cherokees,
at the late Treaty held by me at the German Flats)
To paſs unmolested &c. & they behaving as becometh,
and as they are on His Majestys Service, It is requestd.
That the Officers Commanding Posts along the
Communication to the South westward will
afford them Provisions, or any other aſsitance to
forward there Embaſsy

Given under my hand &
Seal at Arms at Johnson
Hall this 12th. day of Septr. 1770

To whom it may concern

A Copy Chas. Edmonstone

William Johnson

To His Excellency the Right Honourable John, Earl of Dunmor
Governor & Commander in Cheif in & over the Province of New York
A Speech from the Chiefs of the Oneide Indians.

Brother, Governor of New York & our Governor also —

Listen to us in what we shall now say, as we have thought proper & necessary to address You, & communicate our Speech by Ink & paper; as the great distance between us forbids a personal intercourse.

Brother Governor,

We have heard of your Arrival & are glad. We welcome You to New-York — we wish You great success in your administration & peace throughout your extensive goverment; & hope the same may continue amongst our selves. As we have begun in earnest to attend to the holy word of God, & many of us have embraced the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the only Saviour of both white people & Indians. —

Brother Governor,

We desire now to speak freely with You, as our Friend; & acquaint You with our situation & present Necessities. — We are at a great distance from the White people, & almost an hundred Miles from our Brother Sr Willm Johnson, where we are obliged to travel in order to get our Hoes, Axes & guns mended, & that sometimes not accomplished without great difficulty. — we wont mention the many weary & hungry days we are sure to meet with on the Journey. — & sometimes a poor Old Man or Woman bent with Age, who can scarcely walk — yet necessity drives them out upon this long Journey, & are but just able to return for the snow or rain.

Brother Governor,

Now listen to us — we stand in great Need of a Blacksmith to work for us here at our own place, — if it be but for a short while perhaps six months, or a year, — in which time some of our Young Men might acquire a small degree of skill in the trade. So that hereafter we might shift for ourselves in Cases of Necessity. —

But in order to this, we must ask a still greater Favour of our Brother the Governor. The implements of the smith trade, such as Bellows, Anvel, Vice, Hommers, files — — We mention no more at present, lest they shou'd appear too numerous, especially with the addition of a little Iron & steel which our Brother will no doubt judge necessary. — This Charity, once granted would be very extensive & manifold. — We cou'd then hire a Smith to do our work here with very little cost, & escape many hungry days which our Journey to Sr Willm Johnsons always brings upon us, & improve these in

Smith

hunting. We have begun to work. & for our parts will build a House suitable for a Smith, & provide Coal – wood is plenty with us.

Brothr Governor,

We pray You to consider well our petition. – we earnestly beg for this Favour & shall esteem it very great. –

We must inform You that a Smith has been promissed to us many Years since – & our Brother Sr Willm Johnson has given us encouragement of one from time to time, – till a few weeks ago, we received the following Reply to our last application there –

"Brethren It is not in my power to grant you this assistance: my hands are now shut. – The Kings purse that is committed to my Care, to disburse among the Indians is very small. – I might provide You with a Smith for a year, or more; & furnish You with all the Implements for that Business – also for the other Nations, but that would exhaust all the little store And You would of consequence have no Cloathing or Ammunition. – And I must tell You that the providing & ordering of Smiths among the Indians is not with me – the King has put that into the Hands of the several Governors on the Continent. each to give orders & direct in their respective jurisdiction. The Governor of New York is to order with respect to these Things for You, & the other tribes of the five Nations".

Thus said our Brother Sr William Johnson. —

We therefore apply now to You, as our Governor, & the Representative of the great King, whom we revere, & who we have always heard has our welfare at heart. –

If You should think we ask too great a Charity, (supposing nothing is due in point of Justice, & agreeable to former promisses) we then beg for the Latter, Viz, the Implements of the smiths trade – & we will endeavour to help ourselves. –

From our very hearts we pray You, Brother, with all your Council, to consider our poverty & necessity, (which speak loud) & perhaps You will find it in your hearts to compassionate us. We shall be glad to hear from You.

Brother. One word more, & we have done –

That is if our petition shall be rejected, (tho the Thing asked has been long promissed in the Kings Name) don't think we shall resent it like Indians & Heathen. No. Brother, –

we have learned better things. the Gospel of Jesus Christ has taught us to live in peace with our Brethren, and seek the public good. & especially to have compassion on the poor which are always to be found.

Brother Governor, farewell.

Onoide Decem^r. 31^th 1770.

faithfully interpreted & wrote by, Sam^l. Kirkland, Miss^ry to the Onoides.—

The Name of the Chiefs present at the delivering this speech.

Tagawaron, Speaker
Ojekheda
Tekeango
Sahnagearat
Giwi
Shinhare
Siskete
Tegawe

mu 4

To His Excellency the Right Honourable John Earl of Dunmore
Captn General & governour in Chief of the Province of New York,

A speech from the Chiefs of the Oneide Indians

"Brother Govr of N. York, & our Governour also

listen to us, in what we shall now say; as we have thot proper & necessary to address You, & ~~forward our words~~ communicate our speech by ink & paper; as ye great distance between us forbids a personal intercourse.

Br Gover - We have heard of your Arrival - & are glad - we welcome You to N. York. - we wish You great success in Your Administration, & peace in all your Government - & hope ye same may continue amongst ourselves - as We have begun in earnest to attend to the holy word of God - & many of us have embraced ye gospel of Jesus Christ ye only Saviour of both white people & Indians.

Br Govr - we desire now to speak freely wth You, as our Friend - & acquaint you wth our Situation & present Necessities. - we are at a great distance from ~~our Br~~ the white Peple & almost an hundred Miles from our Br. Sr Wm Johnson, where we are obliged to travel, in order to get our Hoes, Axes & Guns Mended - & yt sometimes not accomplished without great difficulty - We wont mention ye many weary & hungry days we are sure to meet with, in ye Journey. & sometimes a poor old Man - or an old woman, ~~crooked~~ bent wth age - who can scarcely ~~go~~ walk - ~~yet Nat~~ necessity drives - drives ym out upon ye long Journey - & ya are but just able to return for ye snow or rain.

Br Govr Now listen to us - We stand in great need of a Blacksmith - to work for us here at our own place - if it be but a short while perhaps six months or a Year - in which time, some of our Young men might acquire ~~[illegible]~~ small degree of skill in ye trade, so yt here after we might shift for ourselves in cases of necessity. - But in order to this, we must ask a still greater favour of our Br ye Governour - ~~[illegible]~~ the implements ~~necessary~~ of ye smith trade - such as bellows, Anvil, Vice-hammers - files - we mention no more lest ~~they~~ should appear too numerous - especially with the addition of a little iron & steal - which our Br ~~will no doubt~~ judge necessary.

~~[illegible]~~

this Charity once granted, wd be very extensive & manifold. —
~~much~~ — we cou'd then hire a smith to do our work here, wt very little Cost — & escape many hungry days yt our Journey to Sir Wm Johnson always brings upon us, & improve these in hunting.

we have begun to work — for our parts & will build a house suitable for a Smith & provide Coal. — wood is plenty with us.

Br. Gov. — we pray you to consider well our petition — we earnestly beg for this Favour & shall esteem it very great.

we must ~~tell~~ inform you, that ~~this~~ a smith has been promised to us many years since — & ~~our Br.~~ Sr. Wm Johnsn has given us encouragement from time to time — till a few weeks ago, we recd the following reply to our last application there —

"Brethren — It is not in my power to grant you this Assistance
"my hands are now shut, — the Kings purse, ~~that~~ is committed
"to my Care to disburse among the Indians, is very small. —
"I might provide you wth a smith for a year or more, & furnish
"you wth all ye implements for yt Business — & for the other Nations
"but yn wd exhaust all ye little store, & you wd of consequence have
"no clothing, or amunition — And I must tell you, that the
"providing & ordering of Smiths & Trade among the Indians,
"is not with me — the King, has put that into ye hands of ye
"several Governrs on ye Continent — each to give orders & direct in yr
"respective jurisdiction — the Governour of N. York is to order
"with respect to these Things for you, & ye other Tribes in five Nations
"Thus said our Br. Sr. Willm Johnson" —

we therefore now apply to you, as our Governr — & ye Minister of the Great King — whom we reverse, & who we have always heard has our welfare at heart ~~[illegible]~~

If you shd think yt we ask too great a Charity (supposing nothing is due in point of justice & agreeable to former promises) we then beg for the latter — Viz — "for ye Implements ~~of ye black~~smiths Trade & we will ~~endeavour~~ to help our selves. —

from our very hearts, we pray you Br. wth all your Council to consider our poverty & necessity wch speaks loud — & perhaps

you

will find it in your hearts to compassionate us —
we shall be glad to hear from you soon —

Br. one word more, & we have done — that is, if our petition shall be rejected, (tho' the thing asked has been long promised in y^e Kings Name) dont think we shall resent it like Indians & Heathen — No Br. we have learned better things the Gospel of Jesus X has taught us; to live in peace w^t our Br^n. & seek y^e public good — & especially to have compass^n upon the poor, w^h are always to be found.

Br^s our Governour, farewell.

Oneida Decem^r. y^e 31st 1770 —

The Names of the Cheifs present at & delivering y^e speech —

Tagawaron Speaker
Ojekheta
Tekeango
Sahnogearat
Giswi —
Shinhore
Seskate
Tegawe.

Interpreted by,

Your Excellency's most Ob^t. & most humble Servant
Sam^l Kirkland, Miss^ry to the Oneidas —

N.B. I have given as literal an Interpretation of y^e speech, as y^e idioms of y^e different Languages w^d admit. — —

ONEIDA CHIEFS TO GOVERNOR DUNMORE

Df.[1]

Onoide Decem^r. y^e. 31^st. 1770 —

To His Excellency the Right Honourable John Earl of Dunmore,[2] Cap^tn. General & governour in Chief of the Province of New York.

A speech from the Chiefs of the Onoide Indians

Brother Gover^r. of N. York, & our Governour also — listen to us, in what we shall now say, as we have thot proper & necessary to address You, & [~~*forward our words*~~][3] communicate our speech by ink & paper; as y^e. great distance between us forbids a personal intercourse.

Br^r. Gover^r. — We have heard of your Arrival — & are glad — we welcome You to N. York — we wish You great success in Your Administration, & peace in all your Goverment — & hope y^e. same may continue amongst ourselves — as We have begun in earnest to attend to the holy word of God — & many of us have embraced y^e. gospel of *Jesus Christ*, y^e. only Saviour of both white people & Indians.

Br^r. Govr^r. — we desire now to speak freely w^h. You, as our Freind, & acquaint You w^h. our Situation & present Necessities. we are at a great distance from [~~*our Br^n.*~~] the white ppl & almost an hundred Miles from our Br^r. S^r. W^m. Johnson, where we are obliged to travel, in order to get our Hoes Axes and Guns Mended, & y^t. some times not accomplished without great difficulty — We wont mention y^e. many weary & hungry days we are sure to meet with in y^e. Journey. & sometimes a poor old Man, or an old woman, [~~*crooked*~~] bent w^h. age, who can scarcely [~~*go*~~] walk — yet necessity drives y^m. out upon y^e. long

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[1] In Hamilton College Library, Kirkland Papers. Petition in hand of Samuel Kirkland quotes the reply of Sir William to the plea of the Oneidas.

[2] John Murray, Earl of Dunmore, was governor of New York from Oct. 19, 1770 to July 9, 1771.

[3] Words italicized and in brackets are crossed out in the manuscript.

Journey — & ya. are but just able to return, for ye. snow & rain.

Br. Govr. — Now listen to us — we stand in great need of a *Blacksmith* — to work for us here at our *own place* — if it be but a short while — perhaps six months or a year — in which time, some of our Young Men might acquire a small degree of skill in ye. trade, so yt. hereafter we might shift for ourselves in cases of necessity. — But in order to [do] this, we must ask a still greater favour of our Br. ye. Governour — the implements [*necessary*] of ye. smith trade, — such as bellows, Anvil, Vice, hammers, files, — we mention no more lest they shoud appear too numerous — especially with the addition of a little iron & steel, which our Br. will no doubt judge necessary.

This Charity once granted, wd. be very extensive & manifold. [*much*] — We cou'd then hire a smith to do our work here, wh. very little Cost — & escape many hungry days yt. our Journey to Sir Wm. Johnsons always brings upon us, & improve these in hunting.

We have begun to work — & for our parts will build a house suitable for a smith & provide Coal. — Wood is plenty with us.

Br. Govr. — we pray You to consider well our petition. — We earnestly beg for this favour & shall esteem it very great. We must [*tell*] inform You, that [*this*] a Smith has been promised to us many years since, — & our Br. Sr. Wm. Johnn. has given us encouragement from time to time — till a few weeks ago, we recd. the following reply to our last application there —

"Brethern — It is not in my power to grant you this Assistance — my hands are now shut, — the King's purse, [*which*] yt. is committed to my Care to disburse among the Indians, is *very small.* — I might provide you wh. a smith for a year or More, & furnish you wh. all ye. implements for yt. Business — & for the other Nations, but yt. wd. exhaust all ye. little store, & you wd. of consequence have no clothing, or Amunition. — And I must tell you, that the providing & ordering of Smiths & Trade among the Indians is not with me. The King, has put that into ye. hands of ye. several Governs. on ye. Continent — each to give orders & direct in yr. respective jurisdiction — the Governour of N. York is to order with respect to these Things, for you, & ye. other tribes in five Nations."

"Thus said our Brr. Sr. Willm. Johnson —"

We therefore now apply to you, as our Governr. & ye. Minister of the Great King — whom we revere, & who we have always heard [*cares for our welfare*] has our welfare at heart. If You shd. think yt. we ask too great a Charity, (supposing nothing is due in point of Justice & agreeable to former promisses) — we then beg for the latter — Viz. — "for ye. Implements of ye. [*black*] smiths Trade" & we will endeavour to help ourselves. —

from our very hearts, we pray You, Br., wh. all your Councel, to consider our poverty & necessity, wc. speaks loud, & perhaps you will find it in your hearts to compassionate us — We shall be glad to hear from you soon. —

Br. one word more, & we are done — that is, if our petition shall be rejected (tho' the thing asked has been long promised in ye. King's Name) dont think we shall resent it, like *Indians* & *Heathen* — *No*, Br. we have learned better things. the Gospel of Jesus X has taught us, to live in peace wh. our Brn. & seek ye. public good — & especially to have compassn. upon the poor, wc. are always to be found.

Br. our Governour, farewell.

The Names of the
Chiefs present
at & delivering
ye. speech

Tagawaron Speaker
Ojekhete
Tekeango
Suhnageorot
Giwi
Shinhore
Seskate
Tegawe

Interpreted by,
Your Excellencys most obed^{t}. & most humble
Servant
SAM^{L}. KIRKLAND, Miss^{ry}.
to the Onoides

N. B. I have given as literal an Interpretation of y^{is}. speech, as y^{e}. idioms of y^{e}. different Languages w^{d}. admit.

TO ______

A.L.S.[1]

[*1770*]

Monday Evening

SIR —

I this Moment rec^{d}. yours, and am oblidged to You for the trouble You have taken about the Battoes, and as my Horses are greatly fatiuged, would be glad You would get them rid in by other Sleds but pray order them to put long poles under them as they do when they ride Hay & Bunches of Straw behind, & before well tyed to Save them from rubbing or thumping against the Sleay, which would damage them much —

Y^{r}. Compliance will oblidge
Sir Y^{r}. Welwisher
& Humble Servant
W JOHNSON

INDORSED:

Sir
Willems Johnson
Bout Van Ds:
pattos na Sackendagoe
1770
men & 19

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[1] In New York State Library.

Brethren,

Our Brother Shawana Ben informs us that the Indians on the Bigg Island want to go away and dispose of the Lands. We are sorry to hear this. We think some of those bad Spirits which you mention in your Speech to us have put this in their Minds, for none but bad men will advise Indians to separate from their Brethren without Cause. We desire you will continue on this Island and consult your Uncles the six Nations when you find any Inclination to remove. They will give you good advice. You know Brethren of the Bigg Island that neither you nor we can agree to buy or sell Lands, or do any thing in that matter without your uncles the six Nations are present in Council, and they give their full Consent to it.

A String.

Brethren,

I observed upon your coming to Town that your Cloaths were much torn and ragged. I suppose that this was occasioned by the Bushes and Briars you met with on the Road in travelling here to see us. I have therefore provided these few Goods to cloath you, and desire you will accept them as a mark of my affection for you. A Present of Goods delivered them.

Brother Cheahoga,

I have considered of your Request to me for a Horse, and what you say in Respect to your becoming stiff and infirm by being employed as a Messenger to us, and have therefore ordered a Horse to be provided for you to carry you home. I have also ordered your Hatchets and Guns to be mended.

The President then addressed himself to Cawandaghsaw, the Cachnawaga, who came from Carolina, as follows,

Brother Cawandaghsa,

I am very glad to see you here safe arrived from Carolina, but am extremely concerned at the disagreeable news you bring me, of the Death of Thomas King, a principal Sachem of the Oneida Nation. As he was a man much esteemed and beloved by Sir William Johnson, and also by us, as well as by all the Six Nations, I sincerely condole with you in the great Loss we have all sustained in his Death: And, with these black Strouds, according to the Custom of the Indians, I cover his Grave; and present you with these Handkerchiefs, to wipe the Tears from your Eyes.

A Present of Black Strouds and Handkerchiefs delivered to him.

Brother,

I have now finished my Answer to your Speeches delivered to us in Council last week: I observed when you came to Town you were almost destitute of good clothes, that you had worn ym out in coming thro' the Bushes on your Journey. I therefore desire you will accept of this small present of Clothing, which I have provided for you, as a mark of my good will and affection for you. And I also desire you will take into your Charge & care these other goods, and deliver them safe to our good old Brother Newcomer, as a Testimony of my particular Regard & Friendship for him. I now take my leave of you as you desire to return home soon, & wish you a good Journey.

But as He has appointed Sir Wm. to write to him on all Affairs the Indians have to communicate to him, I give you this Belt and refer you to him on this occasion, & shall write to him what you have said to me hereon.

Indorsed.

Minutes of a Conference held by the President and Council with Cheahoga, Shawana Ben, and a number of Indians of different Tribes from the West & East Branches of the Susquehanna, September 28th, 1771.

SPEECH OF PIPE, CHIEF OF THE DELAWARES, 1771.

Brother, the Governor of Pennsylvania:

As soon as the Chiefs of our Nation & the Six Nations had Received your Belts from Capt. St. Clair, I was appointed to carrey them thro' all our Villages, and from them to the Shawanese and Wayendots at Sanduskey. I am now Returned, and can inform you and your Wise Men that your messages was well received by all the Tribes, and they all long to meet you, or some of your wise men, in Council, to Renew and brighten the Chain of friendship so long subsisting between our Forefathers, for our parts we never mean to let it slip out of our hands, and its not our faults if it should; it is not in our powers to go to you, but we know its in your power to come, or send some of your Wise Men to meet us, and it never was more necessary, as this difference subsisting between the Governor of Virginia and the Shawanese gives us all great uneasiness in our minds, & tho' we have suffered much in some of our People being killed, yet we have done every thing in our power to get this unhappy difference made up, and have now sent a number of our wise men to assist in getting it settled at the places our Brother, the Governor of Virginia, appointed to meet the Shawanese, but I cannot tell whether they will agree or not.

A String.

In two nights after my Return to Col. Croghan's some bad White

Men crossed the River in the night, and stole four horses from me, which my friend Mr. Mackay can inform you of, which I hope you will Consider and not let me be at the loss of.

THE PIPE,
A Chief of the Delaware Nation.

Directed.
To the Honorable John Penn, Esquire, Governor of Pennsylvania.
℔ favor of Eneas Mackay, Esq.

PETITION FROM PHILADELPHIA, 1771.

To the Honorable James Hamilton, Esquire, President, and the Council of the Province of Pennsylvania.

The Petition of divers Inhabitants of the City of Philadelphia, and Northern Liberties:

Humbly Sheweth—

That there is a public Road leading from the upper End of Fourth street to the Southermost Line of the Widow Masters's Land, near her Mill Dam, which has been in use about 60 years, and is a Boundary of the Lots and Lands on each side, and of singular Convenience to the owners of the same.

That your Petitioners conceive that if the said Road was extended thro' the Widow Masters's Land into the Germantown Road it would not only accommodate the owners of the said Lots and those who reside on and near the present old Road, but be of very great utility to the public, by opening another Out-Let into the Country from the Northern parts of the City.

That the said Road (if extended as aforesaid) would pass over even and good Ground, and not exceed in Length 190 Perches, so that it would occasion but a small Expence in opening it and keeping it in repair.

That your Petitioners, having obtained the full Consent of the Widow Masters for carrying the said Road through her Land according to the Courses laid down in a Draught accompanying this Petition, humbly conceive that no reasonable objection can be had thereto, as it will not injure or pass thro' the Land of any other Person.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honor's will be pleased to appoint men to view the Ground, and to lay out a publick Road from the End of the said old Road leading from Fourth street into the Germantown Road according to the manner proposed and laid down in the said Draft, or as nearly so as may be found most convenient for publick use, and your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

John Thompson,
William Shipley,
Peter Dehaven,
Jacob Brimmer,
Jacob Frank,
John Gartley,
Jos. Howell,
Isaac Howell,
John Grandom,
Sam. Emlen,
Isaac Zane,
Thos. Tilbury,
Reynold Keen,
Stephen Paschall,
Joseph Swift,
Andw. Bunner,
Wm. Henry,
Jedidiah Snowden,
William Ralston,
Rob. Erwin,
William Pusey,
John Wister,
James Benezet,
Tho. Mifflin,
Charles Meredith,
Jos. Hillborn,
Sl. Shoemaker,
William Fisher,
Thos. Lawrence,
Will. Parr,
R. Strettle Jones,
John Gibson, Jr.,
Joseph Stamper,
Chas. Jolly,
Fras. Alison,
H. Jones,

Thos. Say,
Thos. Paschall,
Wm. Coates, Jr.,
John Little,
Benjamin Moson,
Jos. Parker,
John Biddle,
George Wescott,
Henry Keppele,
Wm. Shippen,
Volantine Stanley,
Robert Dove,
Christoffer Myrtetus,
Benj. Hooton,
John Ross,
John Lawrence,
Robt. Smith,
Nicholas Waln,
Thos. Willing,
Tench Francis,
P. Turner Jun.,
W. Shippen, Jun.,
Henry Keppele, Jr.,
Edwd. Penington,
Abraham Carlile,
John Palmer,
Wm. Wishart,
Alex. Huston,
Reuben Haines,
Godfrey Twells,
Clement Biddle,
Owen Jones,
B. Barnes,
John Steinmetz,
Bernard Gratz,
Elijah Weed.

Indorsed.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Philadelphia & Northern Liberties for a Road thro' the Widow Masters's Land into the Germantown Road.*

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* See Col. Rec., Vol. IX., p. 780.

FROM THOMAS GAGE

Contemporary Copy[1]

New York 21st. Jan^{ry}. 1771.

Dear Sir

I take the Liberty to inclose you a Packett of Letters directed to Niagara, which I am to beg the favor of you to forward by Express as soon as it can be done, the Letters contain some Orders of Consequence, which require Expedition.

The Paper inclosed is an Extract of a Letter from Niagara from Cap^{t}. Brown.[2] I had heard of the Indian therein mentioned, but he brought nothing of moment that I know of. His returning with such a number of Belts and passing so many Nations, Speaks his Business to have been of an Extraordinary Nature: If you are Acquainted with is Errand, I conclude all is right.

We are still uncertain as to Peace or War; if the latter shall be determined, a Frigate will be dispatched with the News.

I am with great Regard
Dear Sir
&ca —

S^{r}. W^{m}. Johnson

INDORSED:

Copy./. To
Sir William Johnson
At
Johnson hall
New York January 21st 1771

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[1] In William L. Clements Library.

[2] Captain John Brown, commandant at Niagara.

FROM GABRIEL MATURIN

A.L.[1]

Monday 21st. Jany. 1771 —

Captain Maturin's Compt^{s}. wait upon Sir William Johnson. General Gage's Letter expresses but one "Packet of Letters for Niagara" to be forwarded, but the Letters have accumulated so, that Captain Maturin has been obliged to make up separate the Dispatches for Niagara & Detroit, both of which Sir W^{m}. Johnson will recieve under separate Covers by this Post.

ADDRESSED:

Sir W^{m}. Johnson B^{t}.

INDORSED:[2]

Monday 21st. Janr^{y}. 1771 —
Cap^{t}. Maturins Letter —

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[1] In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Gratz Collection.

[2] In Sir William's hand.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

A.D.[1]

[*Johnson Hall, Jan. 19-23, 1771*]

At a Meeting of all the Cononwaraghare Cheifs Warriors &^{ca}. at Johnson Hall Janr^{y}. 19th. 1771 —

Takawaron Speaker —

Made a long Speech concern^{g}. the Part they Acted in y^{e}. late Ind^{n}. War, when they reminded Sir W^{m}. of the Promises made to him at that time, Viz^{t}. of ever Acting agreable to his Commands, being now babtized & received Members of our Church, and that if any Nation was to hurt him they would resent it &^{ca}. To all which, they said, he only thanked them, [&] approved of their Resolutions, and recommended it to them to keep strictly to them, which they Say, they have religiously done & now request to know his Sentiments with regard to their Nation As they cannot be Easy or happy until that is known. —

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Indian Records, Vol. 9.

A large Bunch of White Wampum

2d. They complained much of Govr. Penns[2] drawing [*in*] some of their People into his Quarrel with the Connecticuts, as he did last Year, when he took the New England Peoples Fort, & which had verry near occasioned a Number of their People to enter into the Quarrel, which might become general, they therefore desire that for the future The Contending Partys will make no application to, or engage any Indians in their Quarrel, least they have reason to repent it, and this they requested might be made known to Both. —

3d. The Oughquagoes complained to them, that the line which they understand the Govr. of Pensilvania is to run from Owegy [*Easterly*] is to be a Due East line wh. would come close to their Towns, whereas they never looked upon it in that light, but that it was to be an Easterly line, and they hope that Mr. Penn will act the Honest Man therein, otherwise he will give great umbrage to the whole Confederacy —

4th. They desired to know what bounds the King wanted from them in order to Close the Boundary Line from Canada Creek. —

Janry. 23d. 1771 Sir Wm. being oblidged to go from Home for a Couple of Days, prevented his Answering them Sooner, Being all Assembled in the Council Room Sir Wm. Told them he was glad to See them, & to find that they were so mindfull of the Engagements they entered into with him in the Year 1763, That He was well pleased wth. their conduct ever Since, and Assured them that as long as they continued to behave as they have hitherto done they will find In him a firm Freind, and that they might depend upon it, that after his Death whoever the King shall think proper to Succeed him, will from y^{e}. Character He will see of them in my Books use them tenderly & as firm freinds, provided they always continue the Same good Disposition. — w^{h}. by a Belt he recommended to them. —

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[2] John Penn, lieutenant governor of Pennsylvania.

A Belt

Sir W^{m}. told them that as to the Dispute between M^{r}. Penn & the Connecticut People, they should not trouble themselves about it, that it was now before the King & Council who would determine it, that as to their People being concerned therein, He had never heard any thing of it but from them. that He would write M^{r}. Penn on y^{t}. Subject, & Desired they would speak to & prevent their People from Joining either Party. Having nothing to Say or do in the Affair, Since the Sale thereof.

A Belt —

As to the Line from Owegy, that, was Settled by the whole Confederacy at Fort Stanwix, & would be run agreable thereto and would not come near to Oughquagoe but to a Creek which was mentioned at the time.

Sir W^{m}. told them in answer to their last Speech or rather Question that the King desired nothing but what was reasonable & agreable to them, that they must know unless there is a Northerly Line Run to close the whole there must Still be a Door open for Encroachments which He is desireous of preventing by the Method proposed. & which Sir W^{m}. Strongly recommend^{d}. the Consideration of, as [*it would be*] the only means of Securing to them the remainder of their Lands, & thereby prevent any Disputes between them & their Bretheren the White People hereafter.

(131) At a Meeting of all the Canawaraghare Chiefs held at Johnson Hall Janry 19th 1771 —

Ekahawaron Speaker — Made a long Speech concerning the Part they acted in ye late Indn War, when they reminded Sir Wm of the Promises made to him at that time Viz. of ever acting agreable to his Commands, being now baptized & received Members of our Church, and that if any Nation was to murd[er] him they would resent it &c. to all which they said he only thanked them, & approved of their Resolutions, and recommended it to them to keep strictly to them, which they say they have religiously done & now request to know his sentiments with regard to that Nation as they cannot be Easy or happy untill that is known —

A large Bunch of White Wampum

2d They complained much of Govr. Penns drawing in some of their People into his Quarrel with the Connecticutts, as he did last year, when he took the New England Peoples Fort, which had very near occasioned a Number of their People to enter into the Quarrel, which might become general, they therefore desire that for the future the Contending Party's will make no aplication to, or engage any Indians in their Quarrel, least they have reason to repent it, and this they requested might be made known to Both. —

3d The Onoghquagoes complained to them, that the line which they understand the Govr. of Pensilvania is to run from Owegy [illegible] is to be a Due East line wch would come close to their Towns, whereas they never looked upon it in that light, but that it was to be an Easterly line, and they hope that Mr. Penn will act the Honest Man therein, otherwise he will give great umbrage to the whole Confederacy. —

4th They desired to know what bounds the King wanted from them in order to Close the Boundary Line from Canada Creek. —

Janry 23d 1771 Sir Wm being obliged to go from Home for a couple of Days, prevented his Answering them sooner. Being all Assembled in the Council Room Sir Wm told them he was glad to see them, & to find that they were so mindfull of the Engagements they entered into with him in the Year 1763, that He was well pleased wt. their conduct ever since, and assured them that as long as they continued to behave as they have hitherto done they will find in him a firm Friend, and that they might depend upon it, that after his Death whoever the King shall think proper to succeed him, will from ye. Character He will see of them in my Books use them tenderly & esteem kindly, provided they always continue the same good Disposition. — wh. by a Belt he recommended to them. — A Belt

Sir Wm. told them that as to the Dispute between Mr. Penn & the Connecticut People, they should not trouble themselves about it, that it was now before the King & Council who would determine it, that as to their People being concerned therein, He had never heard anything of it but from them, that He would write Mr. Penn on ye. Subject, & Desired they would speak to & prevent their People from Joining either Party, Having nothing to say or do in the Affair, since the Sale thereof. —

A Belt —

As to the Line from Owego, that was settled by the whole Confederacy at Fort Stanwix, it would be run agreeable thereto, and would not come near to Oughquago, but to a Creek which was mentioned at the time,

Sir Wm. told them in answer to their last Speech or rather Question that the King desired nothing but what was reasonable & agreeable to them, that they must know unless there is a Northerly Line, run to close the whole there must still be a Door open for Incroachments, which they're desirous of preventing by the Method proposed. & which Sir Wm. strongly recommend the Consideration of, as ~~it would~~ be the only means of securing to them the remainder of their Lands & thereby prevent any Disputes between them & their Brethren the White People hereafter

(133)

The Inds. retd. Thanks for Col. Johnson's Speech & answers especially the Mohawks. Then the Onondaga Speaker arose & [illegible] After repeating all that Col. Johnson had said on the last belt, addd. Col. Johnson as follows. holdg the belt in his hand.

Brothr. Gorah Uroghquadorha,

This Belt ~~has given~~ which you have now given us, affords us more satisfaction than any thing else, we are made very happy by hearing that you have ^to H[illegible]^ Ordrs. to take Care of us, — We were really a good deal uneasy on acct. of ~~all~~ many idle Stories, & this h for the present removd our Concern. We Wish you long life & Health & that you may long continue to take Care of our Affrs. after the Example of yr. late Worthy father in Law. We shall after we have shewn this belt put it carefully up amt. our Gt. Belts at Onondaga & frequently look upon it, that we may never forget any Pt. of it. We desire that you will particularly offer the Thanks of All the 6 Nations & their Allies to the Gt. King for his continuing to us a Person so long & so well acqd. with our Affrs. the only Person we wished for, hoping that his Majesty will continue you to us, & assuring the King that his Ordrs. to you have given us more Satisfaction than ^we ever gave from^ words or Speeches, for it inclines us to believe that he really loves us, & ^consults^ our Happiness & Satisfaction, & that we shall act accordingly.

Then Col. Johnson after thankg them for their Speech & recommendg it to them at their return to remr. his Words & Continue their resolutions, he Covered the Council fire with the Usual Ceremonies & the ~~Co~~ Conference ended —

to Adjournment, and therefore requested to know if His Honor had any Business to recommend to them; to which the Governor replied that, "he had none at present".

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Thursday, 24th January, 1771.

Present,

The Honorable John Penn, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c.

Benjamin Chew, Andrew Allen } Esquires
Edward Shippen, Junior. }

The Governor laid before the Board, for their Consideration, a Letter, which he received by the last Packet, from the Right Honorable the Earl of Hillsborough His Majesty's Secretary of State for the American Department, dated the 15th of November, 1770, inclosing an Extract of a Letter from Sir William Johnson, and of a Conference held by him, last Summer, with the six Nations, which were severally read, and the said Letter follows in these Words. Viz.

(Circular) Whitehall, 15th November, 1770.

Sir,

The inclosed extract of a Letter, I have very lately received from Sir William Johnson, will fully inform you of the complaints made by the six Nations of Indians, and their Allies and Confederates, at a Congress held in July last at the German Flatts, of the abuses and violences committed by the Traders and Frontier Inhabitants of several of His Majesty's Colonies; and the inclosed extract of the Conferences will point out to you how earnest the Indians have been in those Complaints, and what is likely to happen if they are not redressed.

After the King had thought fit, from a Regard to the Claims and Opinions of the Colonies to leave it to them to make such regulations concerning the Indian Commerce as they judged proper, there was good reason to hope that, a Matter, on which their Interest and Safety do so much depend, would have been an immediate Object of their serious deliberation; but as, contrary to all expectation, nothing effectual appears yet to have been done, and as the Indians have, in the strongest Manner, expressed their impatience under the Abuses to which they are constantly exposed, the King has commanded me to signify his Pleasure, that you

shall,

Pennsylvania, 1771.

should, without delay, represent this Matter in the strongest Manner to the Assembly of the Colony under your Government, and urge them, in His Majesty's Name, to fall upon some Means of putting Indian Affairs under such regulation as may have the Effect to prevent those Abuses of the Trade, and those Violences and encroachments of the Frontier Inhabitants, which the Indians so justly complain of.

I am,
Sir,
Your most obedient
humble Servant
Hillsborough

Deputy Governor of Pennsylvania.

The Board, having taken the said Letters &c. into consideration, were of Opinion that the Contents of the Secretary of States Letter should be communicated to the Assembly by a Message, and its inclosures laid before them; and that the Governor should recommend it to them, in the strongest Manner, to take the most effectual Measures for complying with His Majesty's Pleasure therein signified: And it was agreed that a Draft of a Message should be accordingly prepared to be laid before the Board at their next Meeting.

Memorandum, the 25th of January, 1771.

The Governor having received information that a Commission is wanted in the County of New Castle for the trial of Negroes (as one of the Gentlemen named in the last Negroe Commission for that County has since been created a Justice of the Supream Court, and of the Court of Oyer and Terminer,) his Honor this day issued one, appointing Evan Rice and David Finney Esquires Justices for holding Courts in that County for the trial of Negroe and Mulatto Slaves according to Law.

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Monday 28th January 1771.

Present

The Honorable John Penn Esquire Lieutenant Governor &c.

Benjamin Chew, James Tilghman,
Lynford Lardner, Andrew Allen, } Esquires
Edward Shippen Jun.

The Governor laid before the Board four Bills sent up by the tioners are of Opinion such a Road is still wanted, and that it ought to be extended both higher and lower, they most humbly pray the Governor and Council would be pleased to appoint Men to view and lay out the same, beginning in a Road leading from Wright's Town to Bibury, and to extend thence on or as near the Line aforesaid as may be, to another great Road commonly called the Macungy Road, (near Michael Hurlocker's), or so much thereof as may appear necessary and Convenient."

The Board taking the said Petition into consideration, do order and appoint John Bull and Evan Thomas, Esquires, and Joshua Morris, of Philadelphia County, and Joseph Kirkbride, Thomas Barnsley, and John Kidd, Esquires, of Bucks County, to view the Grounds, and if they, or any four of them, think the Road petitioned for necessary for the Public, to lay out the same in the manner they, or any four of them, shall judge will be most advantageous for the Public Service, and least injurious to Private Persons through whose Lands the same may pass, and to make Report thereof to the Governor and Council, on or before the first day of June next, for their further Consideration, that they may do therein what shall appear most for the public Benefit.

It being represented to the Board that a Commission is wanted for the Trial of Negroes in Cumberland County, the Governor, with the advice of the Board, ordered one to be issued, appointing John Armstrong and John Byers, Esquires, Justices for holding Courts in that County for the Trial of Negroes, according to Law.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Wednesday 12th December, 1770.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c^a.

James Hamilton,	Richard Peters,	Esquires.
Joseph Turner,	Benjamin Chew,	
William Logan,	Thomas Cadwalader,	
James Tilghman,		

Pursuant to the Summons wrote by the Secretary to all the Members of Council by the Governor's Command, requesting their Attendance this Morning for the Election of some new Members, the Board met, and His Honor acquainted them that there were now two vacant Seats in the Council, which he thought necessary to be filled up, and therefore proposed Andrew Allen and Edward Shippen, Junior, Esquires, as Persons well qualified to serve as Members of Council, who were unanimously approved of by the Board. It is, therefore, Ordered that those Gentlemen have Notice given them hereof by the Secretary, and that they be summoned to attend at the next meeting of Council, in order to take the usual Qualifications, and be admitted to their Seats at this Board.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Monday 24th December, 1770.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c^a.

Richard Peters, } Esquires.
James Tilghman, }

Andrew Allen and Edward Shippen, Junior, Esquires, having been summoned to attend the Council this Day, appeared at the Board, and took and subscribed the usual Oaths and Declarations enjoined by Law, and also an Oath for the faithful discharge of their Duty as Members of the Proprietary and Governor's Council, and were admitted to their Seats accordingly.

One of the Members represented to the Board that a new Commission for the trial of Negroes was wanted in Chester County, it being a Matter of some doubt whether the present Commission is not superseded by the issuing of the late General Commission of the Peace. The Governor, therefore, with the advice of the Board, judged it proper, in Order to remove such Doubt, to issue a new Commission, appointing John Morton and William Parker, Esqures, Justices for holding Courts for the trial of Negroes in the said County, according to Law.

MEMORANDUM. The 8th of January, 1771.

Two Members of Assembly waited on the Governor, and acquainted him that the House had met pursuant to Adjournment, and therefore requested to know if His Honour had any Business to recommend to them, to which the Governor replied that he had none at present.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Thursday 24th January, 1771.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c^a.

Benjamin Chew, Andrew Allen, } Esquires.
Edward Shippen, }

The Governor laid before the Board for their Consideration a Letter which he received by the last Packet from the Right Honorable the Earl of Hillsborough, His Majesty's Secretary of State for the American Department, dated the 15th of November, 1770, inclosing an Extract of a Letter from Sir William Johnson, and of a Conference held by him last Summer with the six Nations, which were severally read, and the said Letter follows in these Words, Viz':

"(Circular).

"WHITEHALL, 15th November, 1770.

"Sir:

"The inclosed extract of a Letter I have very lately received from Sir William Johnson, will fully inform you of the complaints made by the six Nations of Indians, and their Allies and Confederates, at a Congress held in July last, at the German Flatts, of the abuses and Violences committed by the Traders and Frontier Inhabitants of several of His Majesty's Colonies, and the enclosed extract of the Conferences will point out to you how earnest the Indians have been in those Complaints, and what is likely to happen if they are not redressed.

"After the King had thought fit, from a Regard to the Claims and Opinions of the Colonies, to leave it to them to make such regulations concerning the Indian Commerce as they judged proper, there was good reason to hope that a Matter on which their Interest and Safety do so much depend, would have been an immediate Object of their Serious deliberation; but as, contrary to all expectation, nothing effectual appears yet to have been done, and as the Indians have, in the strongest Manner, expressed their impatience under the Abuses to which they are constantly exposed, the King has commanded me to signify his Pleasure that you should without delay, represent this Matter in the Strongest Manner to the Assembly of the Colony under your Government, and urge them, in His Majesty's Name, to fall upon some Means of putting Indian Affairs under such regulation as may have the Effect to prevent those Abuses of the Trade, and those Violences and encroachments of the Frontier Inhabitants, which the Indians so justly complain of.

"I am, Sir,
"Your most obedient humble Servant,
"HILLSBOROUGH."

"Deputy Governor of Pennsylvania."

The Board having taken the said Letters, &c^a· into consideration, were of Opinion that the Contents of the Secretary of State's Letter should be communicated to the Assembly by a Message, and its inclosures laid before them; and that the Governor should recommend it to them in the strongest Manner, to take the most effectual Measures for complying with His Majesty's Pleasure therein signified. And it was agreed that a Draft of a Message should be accordingly prepared, to be laid before the Board at their next Meeting.

MEMORANDUM, the 25th of January, 1771.

The Governor having received information that a Commission is wanted in the County of New Castle, for the trial of Negroes, (as one of the Gentlemen named in the last Negroe Commission for that County has since been created a Justice of the Supream Court and of the Court of Oyer and Terminer), his Honour this day issued one, appointing Even Rice and David Finney, Esquires, Justices for holding Courts in that County for the trial of Negroe and Mulatto Slaves, according to Law.

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Monday 28th January, 1771.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JOHN PENN, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c^a.

Benjamin Chew,	James Tilghman,	Esquires.
Lynford Lardner,	Andrew Allen,	
Edward Shippen, Junior,		

The Governor laid before the Board four Bills sent up by the House for his Concurrence, entituled as follows, viz^t:

"A Supplement to the Act entituled 'An Act for the better regulation of Servants within this Province and Territories.'"

"A Supplement to the Act entituled 'An Act for erecting part of the Counties of Philadelphia, Chester and Lancaster, into a separate County.'"

"An Act to prevent the Destruction of Rock Fish and Oysters;" and

"An Act to regulate the Fishery in the River Schuylkill," which were severally read and considered, and the Secretary was directed to return the same to the Assembly, with three small amendments which were made to the first mentioned Bill, and a Verbal Message to the House that the Governor gave his Assent to the other three.

The Draft of a Message to the Assembly, on the subject of the Earl of Hillsborough's Letter of the 15th of November last, being prepared, was laid before the Board and approved, and the Secretary was directed to transcribe the same, and delivered it to the Assembly this Afternoon, with the Papers it refers to. The said Message follows in these Words, Viz^t:

~~Jan~~ 28 1771

1771

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

[illegible] Jan (28) 1771

Gentlemen

In Obedience to his Majesty's Commands lately signified to me in a Letter from the Earl of Hillsborough, I am now to acquaint you that, at a Congress held at the German Flats in July last by Sr William Johnson with the Six Nations their Confederates and Allies, they loudly complained of Abuses & Violences committed by the Traders & frontier Inhabitants of the Colonies, strongly ~~inti~~ intimating that, unless they are speedily redressed & effectual Measures taken in future to prevent the like Mischiefs, it will be impossible to restrain their young Men & Warriors from Acts of Revenge. — I have order'd the Secretary to lay before you an Extract ~~of from the~~ of one of the Conferences ~~on this Subject~~ at the Congress, and of Sr Williams Letter to the Earl of Hillsborough ~~to~~ on this Subject, transmitted me by his Lordship which will make known to you the particulars of the Indian Complaints. You must be sensible Gentn, that the cultivating a lasting Friendship with the Indians and the conciliating their Affections by all possible Means are Objects of the greatest Importance to his Majesty's Interest in general and the Peace & Welfare of the Colonies in particular. Motives of Justice & good Policy alone would, I am perswaded, incline you to take this Matter into your most serious Consideration: But when you are informed that His Majesty has been pleased expressly to order me, without Delay to represent it to you in the strongest Manner and urge you, in His Name to fall on ~~such~~ some Means of putting Indian Affairs under such Regulations as may have the

Effect to prevent the Abuses of the Trade & those Violences & Encroachments of the frontier Inhabitants which the Indians so justly complain of. You will, I make no doubt, hold yourselves bound by the Ties of Duty & respect to your Sovereign to ~~Wave other Matters for the Present and~~ give this Business the first Place in your Deliberations.

John Penn

January 28th, 1771. —

may Still get into Something that may be advantagious to you, & possibly the present prospect of affairs may open a way to your preferrment to something that may be handsome, and which a man cannot procure on this Side of the Atlantic.— I have mentioned your Affair here regard^{g} the Law suit twice to the General, the last time very lately but have not recived any Ans^{r}. to them, and the accot you left with me did not Seem agreable to him.—

I was more than ever distressed about Cash at the rec^{t}. of your last with the Draft upon me, having been obliged then to pay the fees of sev^{l}. Patents &c, however, rather than your Credit should be affected or that you should suffer thro' the want of the £100, I have now given M^{r} Blackburne an order for its am^{t}. which I hope will enable you to prosecute your affairs without farther Inconveniency, I have also answered the fees & taken out your Patent for the 2000 Acres near Sacondaga, and I hope that you may be enabled soon to repay the Same together with the Am^{t} of y^{r} late Draft,—In consequence of the late Congress I held at the German flatts, Embassys are Sent throughout all the Nations charged with Such belts & Speeches as may prove of great Service to the public, but If a War breaks out, our Enemys will doubtless endeavor all they can to turn our attention to the Interior parts of America, by Setting up all the Ind^{s}. they can Influence, to attack our frontiers.— Col Claus was about writing
you [ ]
Johnson wrote you a Long letter in October [ ]
kindly remembered to you, and says he is [ ]
Correspondent, if he has any thing worth writing [ ]
also desires his kind Compliments, & I remain with [ ]
Wishes for your prosperity

Sir &c

LIEUT ROBERTS.

TO GEORGE CROGHAN

Df.[1]

Johnson hall Feb^y 1^st. 1771.

DEAR SIR,

I should much Sooner have Answered your Letter but that I have been so totally taken up, not only with public Concerns, but sev^l. interesting points of a private nature that I was obliged to deferr my Intentions of Writing till now. The accot of £477:10:— I shall endeavor to get for you as Soon as I can, the Accots of the last year Including the Goods I sent for to England having exceeding my Ann^l. allowance I could not put it into them, The Sixty odd pounds for the Wampum shall be paid to your Order immediately.—

The General has lately transmitted to me a Copy of a Conference held at Fort Pitt, by which I find that Tho^s King has been getting more Clothing &ca I am in hopes however that if he & his party act a proper part with the belts & messages they are charged with it will shew how far the Northern Nations have adopted our Sentiments, and prove of some advantage.—From what appears to have past at that Conference and from the Speeches of the Shawanese Sentiments of peace & union seem to be general amongst the Ind^s. but if a proper use is not made of this such a union may be dangerous. The Chief Object of the Embassy to the Southward was to bring those Nations who have not only illtreated our people but the Noth^n. Confed^y. at the Missisippi & Ohio, to a Just Sense of their bad behavior, and to Engage them to act in a peaceable & friendly Manner for the future both to us, and our Friends, a proper use must be made of this the Indians must be told that the North^n. Confederacy will Consider, our Enemys as Enemys to themselves, and this I would have you as occasion offers to represent in the Manner that you shall Judge most prudent.—

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[1] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

This Letter goes by Mr. Prevosts Express, who is Sent to you to Signify his Fathers proposal for his [ ] Army with some Advantage. The particul[ ] & Candidly Stated to you, that I need not [ ] than to offer it as my opinion That I think the [ ] taking is a prudent one for a Young Gentleman [ ] wrote to the General in his behalf on the Occasion.

I am heartily Sorry to hear of your Indisposition, [ ] this will find you better. The family desire their kind Compliments & Col. Johnson who has been indisposed for near 2 months till very lately desires to be particularly remembered to you. Be assured that I wish you health & happiness & hope you will be able to Visit us within a little time being with True Regard

Dr. Sir,

GEO. CROGHAN Esqr.

INDORSED:[1]

Feby. 1st. 1771

To Geo. Croghan Esqr.

TO JOHN SANDERS AND JOHN B. VAN EPS

Df.[2]

Feby 1st. 1771.

GETLN.

As It is late & the post Just going off I have only time to acknowledge the rect of your last and to return you the petition which I have perused & think the people mean well,—My regard for your Interest induces me to Wish that you may persist in pursuing firmly but Quietly such regular & Legal relief as your Cause deserves, furnishing no handle to your Enemys to prejudice you with your friends below.—

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[1] In Johnson's hand.

[2] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

According to the Votes of the House sent to me I see your Affair was put off to the 24th Ult^o^. but I find no mention made of any Referrence, So that I take it to have been only given by way of advice.—

I am in haste
Gentlemen
Your hearty Wellwisher
& very humble Servt

Mess^rs^. SANDERS
& VAN EPPS—

INDORSED:[1]
Febr^y^. 1^st^. 1771——
Letter to J^n^. Sanders John
B Van Eps Esq^rs^. with their
Petition——

TO JOHN BLACKBURN

Df.[2]

[ ] *Johnson hall Feb^y^ 1^st^. 1771.—*

I am now to acknowledge the rect of your favors of the 12^th^. Sept^r^. 4^th^. October & 15^th^. Nov^r^. last and am very much obliged to you for your kind tender of Services which I shall thankfully make use of whenever occasion requires.— I am also well pleased with the dispatch you made use of in procuring the Articles in England that I wrote for, Tho' as yet they have not come to my hands. Those which came in Cap^t^ Miller, might have reached me long since but for the Extraordinary Season that followed which has not as yet afforded any Snow for Sledding from Albany,— Cap^t^ Munds late Arrival has unluckily proved a great disappointment to me, as all the Goods on board of his Vessell must remain in Store at N York till the latter end of March or

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[1] In Johnson's hand.

[2] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON TO LORD HILLSBOROUGH.

Johnson hall Feby 18th 1771

MY LORD,

Since I had the honor to receive your Lordships Letters Nos 14. and 15. The last of which came to my hands a few days Since I waited to receive such Informations as I had reason to Expect from the Southward in order to Communicate the same thro' your Lordship to his Majesty.

The Advices I have now received enable me to acquaint you that the Great Council lately held at the plains of Sioto is ended. That the designs and endeavors of the Indians in that quarter, was to promote such a Union as I before apprehended and endeavored with all possible Caution to Obstruct; but that the advice given to those of the Northern Alliance joyned to their private aversion for some of the rest, had occasioned it to end after many Debates in General resolutions for promoting peace, amongst all the Nations as a necessary Introduction to a more Strict Alliance between the Northern & Southern people, which is to have for its Object some particular undertaking, for which matters did not appear during the Congress sufficiently ripe, and of this I can have no reason to doubt from the present Maxims of Policy and Sentiments adopted, by the more Belligerent Nations of both Alliances.

The Deputies which were sent from the Northern Confederacy with Sundry belts &ca from them & myself, agreeable to the resolutions at the Treaty I held last July at the German flatts, met the Indians from Scioto at Fort Pitt in December last, and have agreeable to their Instructions in a Spiritted Speech Summoned them all to reassemble at Scioto without delay, when, and not before they would Communicate to them the Determined Resolutions of the Northern Inds entered into at the German flatts Treaty together with the Subject of the Embassy, on which they have One hundred belts. As I have great Confidence both in the fidelity and Abilities of sevl of these Deputies I have good hopes that when they meet those Nations to whom they have been sent, they will be able to defeat any dangerous Schemes or Resolutions which are yet in View in that Country, and awaken those Nations fears who have given Offence to the Northern Confederacy, which will prove a Sufficient check to their other designs, and if I am disappointed in my Expectations It must be thro' some Accident or Occurrence against which no provision can be made at this time.

The Apprehensions which I long since communicated of a Union between the Northern and Southern Indians, and which your Lordship makes particular mention of in your Letter No. 14. is really a matter of the most Serious Nature, for if a very Small part of these people have been capable of reducing us to such Straits as we were in a few years Since, what may we not Expect from such a formidable alliance as we are threatned with, when at the same time it is well known that we are not at this time more Capable of defence, If so much, as at the former period. This is in some measure the consequence of their becoming better acquainted with their own Strength, and united Capacity to preserve their importance and Check our advances into their Country, for at the beginning of the late War through the rapid advances for sometime made by the French &ca, The Indians did really conceive that we should be totally reduced, but as they discovered the increased population of this Country, even in the midst of its distresses and that our Army was Still recruited with fresh Regiments, their sentiments altered; They began to entertain more respectable Ideas of us & of our Resources, and thro' the imprudence of our own People & their Natural Suspicions, have gradually become more & more alarmed for themselves, Tho' they still believe that it is in their power to give us such a Check as may prevent us from attempting what they apprehend we have in View. Many will talk, some will think, and a lesser Number will act otherwise, but this is nevertheless The True political State of their sentiments in general at present. As I know the nature of their unions, and that the Southern Ind^s found many of the rest in Sufficient employment during the Long war that subsisted between them so I could not help suggesting my Apprehensions of the Consequences of the peace I had orders to effect between these people; but the Laws of Humanity, The entreaty of the Southern Indians and the earnest desire of some Colonies who represented themselves as affected by that War, being powerfull Considerations prevailed over, what might be judged as a distant, or simple Apprehension; I sincerely wish it may not Contribute to any ill consequence, and Shall Constantly and Steadily use all the means in my power to prevent it; but altho' it may be treated as a Chimera at this time, Yet I can positively assure your Lordship that both Spaniards & French, the latter of whom act the part of Agents did and do still Continue to make presents to all the Nations to whom they can have any access by the Rivers which discharge themselves into the Misisipi, and that they do constantly endeavor to thwart our Measures by various Stories & Misrepresentations, which being Supported by favors & coming from a people of whom they entertain no Apprehensions, against a people from whom most of the Ind^s imagine they have every thing to fear, renders it almost impossible to prevent them from having some effect.

The Indians have for sometime discovered that a War is probably at hand, Many of them think that it has already Commenced, but that we conceal it from them on acct of some Advantages the Enemy has gained, and in Consequence of this during last week I was Visited by Deputations from most of the Six Nations, to whom I gave such Answers as I judged best Calculated for the purpose in any Event that may happen in Europe, If a War commences & that any attempts are made in America, or in case the Ind^s sho^d be seduced to disturb our frontiers, to draw part of our attention that way, I am confident (as I formerly proposed) that I can from the measures I have taken, & the influence I possess secure & Attach to our Interest if impowered so to do, such a body of Ind^s as if not so numerous as those against us, will give a Severe Check to their Attempts & as the dis^t Ind^s dread nothing so much at present as a quarrell Amongst themselves, I am equally confident that the Very Appearance of some, in the Character of Vigorous Allies, will in any Quarrell whether thro' the Intrigues of a European power, or of a Confederacy ams^t the Ind^s. themselves prove greatly advantagious to us, and tend to defeat their purposes as much as any Measures that can be adopted, which I most humbly Submit to your Lordships Consideration in case my Apprehensions should be realized by future Events or Occurences.

In consequence of a former Letter wherein your Lordship signified his Majestys Inclination that the Indian boundary Line should be continued from where it was made to terminate by the Treaty of 1768. (at Canada Creek or Wood Creek) I have Conferred with the Chiefs of the Nations Interested, over whom I have in general so far prevailed that I believe they will when Assembled for that purpose, admit of its Extension far to the Northward perhaps to the River S^t Law^{ce}. I therefore hope to be honored with instructions respecting my Conduct previous to my taking any farther Steps therein, and remain with profound respect My Lord

Y^{rs} &^{c} most faithfull
& most Obed^t H^{ble} Ser^t.

The Rt honble The Earl of Hillsborough

absolute necessity that the Crown should in these instructions declare its sentiments fully not only against the extravagant claim of the Council of acting as a Council of State separate from the governor, but also that the possession of the King's Castle at Boston by the King's troops is to be considered in no other light than that of a trust committed to them by the governor of the province in consequence of orders from His Majesty for that purpose. *Draft.* [C.O.5/760, fo. 7]

XV

Oucconnastotah to John Stuart[1]

12 February, Toqueh

Beloved Father, two days ago I was informed that there prevails a talk among our traders and their people that we were joining the Norths to go to war against the white people, and upon that strength several packhorsemen went down from the country and I suppose will alarm the settlement. It is true there came a good many Norths here to strengthen the friendship between us and them, and we are very much beholden to both our beloved fathers who had assisted us in making peace between us and them. You know when I saw you last fall we made everything straight and parted one from another well contented. If it should happen that any bad talks about us should be raised, don't believe them, there is no truth in them.

Beloved father, there is you and General Johnson who made peace for us, between us and the Norths. The Norths came here to go to war against the Choctaws. I wanted to stop them but they told me that their father, General Johnson, gave them liberty to go against the Choctaws. I want very much to know if you are as well agreed that the Norths should go to war against Choctaws, or if it is only General Johnson? I love the Choctaws as well as I do the white people. If you don't know anything about it, let me know and ask General Johnson if he gave them liberty.

The Norths came in my town with the hatchet in their hand and said their father, General Johnson, put it in their hands to make use of it against the Choctaws; therefore I could not take it out of their hands as their father put it himself into their hands. In the same time that General Johnson should have told them to get powder here of the white people, but I told them that the white people have no powder at present. In the spring I shall hear from you when you have answer from General Johnson. I hold you with both my hands, beloved father. *Copy.* [C.O.5/72, fo. 223]

XVI

Sir William Johnson to Earl of Hillsborough (No. 15)

18 February, Johnson Hall

My Lord, since I had the honour to receive your lordship's letters, Nos. 14 and 15 [Vol. I, Nos. 646, 726], the last of which came to my hands a few days since, I waited to receive such informations as I had reason to expect from the southward in order to communicate the same through your lordship to His Majesty. Advices I have now received enable me to acquaint you that the great council lately held at the plains of Sioto is ended, that the design and endeavours of the Indians in that quarter was to promote such a union as I before apprehended and endeavoured with all possible caution to obstruct; but that the advice given to those of the Northern alliance, joined to their private aversion for some of the rest, had occasioned it to end after many debates in general resolutions for promoting peace among all the nations as a necessary introduction to a more strict alliance between the Northern and Southern people, which is to have for its object some particular undertaking for which matters did not appear during the congress sufficiently ripe; and of this I can have no reason to doubt from the present maxims of policy and sentiments adopted by the more belligerent nations of both alliances. The deputies which were sent from the Northern confederacy with sundry belts etc. from them and myself, agreeable to the resolutions at the treaty I held last July at the German Flats, met the Indians from Sioto at Fort Pitt in December last, and have agreeable to their instructions in a spirited speech summoned them all to reassemble at Sioto without delay, when and not before they would communicate to them the determined resolutions of the Northern Indians entered into at the German Flats Treaty together with the subject of the embassy on which they have one hundred belts. As I have great confidence both in the fidelity and abilities of several of these deputies, I have good hopes that when they meet those nations to whom they have been sent, they will be able to defeat any dangerous schemes or resolutions which are yet in view in that country and awaken those nations' fears who have given offence to the Northern confederacy which will prove a sufficient check to their other designs, and if I am disappointed in my expectations it must be through some accident or occurrence against which no provision can be made at this time.

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[1] Enclosed in John Stuart's letter of 27 April to Hillsborough, Vol. III, No. XXXVIII.

The apprehensions which I long since communicated of an union between the Northern and Southern Indians, and which your lordship makes particular mention of in your letter No. 14, is really a matter of the most serious nature; for if a very small part of these people have been capable of reducing us to such straits as we were in a few years since, what may we not expect from such a formidable alliance as we are threatened with, when at the same time it is well known that we are not at this time more capable of defence, if so much, as at the former period? This is in some measure the consequence of their becoming better acquainted with their own strength and united capacity to preserve their importance and check our advance into their country, for at the beginning of the late war through the rapid advances for some time made by the French etc. the Indians did really conceive that we should be totally reduced; but as they discovered the increased population of this country even in the midst of its distresses, and that our army was still recruited with fresh regiments, their sentiments altered, they began to entertain more respectable ideas of us and of our resources, and through the imprudence of our own people and their natural suspicions have gradually become more and more alarmed for themselves, though they still believe that it is in their power to give us such a check as may prevent us from attempting what they apprehend we have in view. Many will talk, some will think, and a lesser number will act otherwise, but this is nevertheless the true political state of their sentiments in general at present. As I know the nature of their unions, and that the Southern Indians found many of the rest insufficient employment during the long war that subsisted between them, so I could not help suggesting my apprehensions of the consequences of the peace I had orders to effect between these people; but the laws of humanity, the entreaty of the Southern Indians, and the earnest desire of some colonies who represented themselves as affected by that war, being powerful considerations, prevailed over what might be judged as a distant or simple apprehension. I sincerely wish it may not contribute to any ill consequence, and shall constantly and steadily use all the means in my power to prevent it; but although it may be treated as a chimera at this time, yet I can positively assure your lordship that both Spaniards and French, the latter of whom act the part of agents, did and do still continue to make presents to all the nations to whom they can have any access by the rivers which discharge themselves into the Mississippi, and that they do constantly endeavour to thwart our measures by various stories and misrepresentations, which being supported by favours and coming from a people of whom they entertain no apprehensions, against a people from whom most of the Indians imagine they have everything to fear, renders it almost impossible to prevent them from having some effect.

The Indians have for some time discovered that a war is probably at hand, many of them think that it has already commenced but that we conceal it from them on account of some advantages the enemy has gained, and in consequence of this during last week I was visited by deputations from most of the Six Nations, to whom I gave such answers as I judged best calculated for the purpose in any event that may happen in Europe. If a war commences and that any attempts are made in America, or in case the Indians should be seduced to disturb our frontiers to draw part of our attention that way, I am confident (as I formerly proposed) that I can from the measures I have taken and the influence I possess secure and attach to our interest, if empowered so to do, such a body of Indians as if not so numerous as those against us will give a severe check to their attempts; and as the distant Indians dread nothing so much at present as a quarrel amongst themselves, I am equally confident that the very appearance of some in the character of vigorous allies will in any quarrel, whether through the intrigues of a European power or of a confederacy amongst the Indians themselves, prove greatly advantageous to us and tend to defeat their purposes as much as any measures that can be adopted, which I most humbly submit to your lordship's consideration in case my apprehensions should be realised by future events or occurrences.

In consequence of a former letter wherein your lordship signified His Majesty's inclination that the Indian boundary line should be continued from where it was made to terminate by the treaty of 1768 (at Canada Creek *alias* Wood Creek) I have conferred with the chiefs of the nations interested, over whom I have in general so far prevailed that I believe they will when assembled for that purpose admit of its extension far to the northward, perhaps to the River St Lawrence. I therefore hope to be honoured with instructions respecting my conduct previous to my taking any farther steps therein. *Signed.* [C.O.5/72, fo. 183]

XVII

Governor William Tryon to Colonel Richard Caswell[1]

18 February, Newbern

Your dispatches of the 17th and 18th instant have been punctually received with the enclosures. I am much obliged to you for the prudent disposition you have made of your men and the active spirit you discover in these critical times. The assurances you give me of the cheerful resolution of your own and the neighbouring regiments in support of government afford me the fullest assurance that we shall by their united aid be enabled to chastize the insolence of any who shall dare to offer any future violence to the persons or properties of His Majesty's subjects in this province. The laws in force I trust in their operation will countenance us in that cause as well as redress the injuries already committed.

I hope to hear from you tomorrow by noon whether the insurgents are actually on their march or not, as I propose tomorrow afternoon to dismiss the Craven Regiment at present assembled if I do not hear the insurgents are on their march, concluding I shall have sufficient time to reassemble them at a short notice should there be future occasion for them. I think it is not impossible the insurgents may attempt to come down in a body with such of their party as they find stand indicted under the late law in order to protect them on their trials.

When you are upon a certainty that the insurgents are not on their march you may dismiss your men, cautioning them to hold themselves in readiness to turn out again on the first notice you may find it necessary to give them, which at the distance I am from you must be left discretionary with yourself. *Entry.* [C.O.5/314, fo. 239d]

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[1] From Governor Tryon's letter-book, enclosed with letter of 2 August to Hillsborough, Vol. I, No. 1434.

XVIII

John Stuart to Alexander Cameron[1]

23 February, Charleston

Sir, I am extremely glad to be informed of your being in the nation by your letter of 8 instant [Vol. III, No. XIII] which I received yesterday, being forwarded to me per express from Ninety Six, and this goes by the same conveyance.

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[1] Enclosed in John Stuart's letter of 5 March to Hillsborough, Vol. I, No. 1032.

at Conojoharee until he has taken Orders. The design is good, and I wish he was now there to enter upon it—I have built a handsome Church there at my own Expence[1] Tho' I had been promised the assistance of others but the times did not admit of it, and as that village is equal in zeal & attachment to the Mohocks and is 30 miles farther up the Country, Mr Halls establishment & success there will contribute greatly to enlarge the design of the plan and to point out its benefits to the public, which so soon as these persons are properly Seated and have acquired a share of the Language and Confidence of the Indians, may be so far Extended as to comprehend all that can be wished for, to form one vast & Generous design.

It is extremely probable that a War with Spain is not very distant, and indeed I believe it is Covetted by many people but Spain will have powerful alliances, and without great Care France, may give us fresh trouble in America, particularly thro' the Influence they still retain over so many Indian Nations. I am much obliged to the worthy Dr Johnson for his kind remembrance and sincerely wish him all happiness. My Son, who desires his Complements to you purposes to visit N York soon Col: Johnson also desires to be kindly remembered, and be assured that I am always with perfect regard

The Revd Mr. Chas Inglis. Dear Sir &c.

SIR WM. JOHNSON TO ARTHUR LEE ESQ., M. D. F. R. S.[2]

ON THE CUSTOMS, MANNERS AND LANGUAGES OF THE INDIANS.

Johnson hall Febr 28th 1771.

Sir, I should be wanting in duty to the public if I withheld from a Gentleman of Dr Lee's Character any information I am capable of affording on the subject of yr Letter wch thro' my Absence from home havg been some time in the Ind. Country & since entirely occupied with affairs of a public nature, it was not in my power to ansr till now.

I am only apprehensive that any account in my power respecting such enquirys amongst the unlettered Indians will prove inadequate to the Expectations formed in your Letter, notwithstanding my long residence in this country, ["of more than thirty eight years,"] the Nature of my office and the most diligent enquirys into these curious particulars, I find all researches of that sort for reasons which I shall give presently involved in such difficultys & uncertainty as to afford but slender satisfaction. At least far short of my inclination to gratify your desire thereon—how ever I shall endeavor to make some attonement by giving you some acc^t of these difficulties together with such other hints as from the motives of enquiry suggested in your Letter may I flatter myself prove of some little use, or amusemen to you.

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[1] An account of monies expended by John Danl. Muller in building a Church at Canajohary, for the use of the Indians by the direction of the Honble Sir William Johnson. £459.1 11.

[2] Arthur Lee was born in Virginia on the 20th Dec. 1740. He was sent at an early age to Eton, and afterwards to the University of Edinburgh, where he obtained his degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1764. He returned to his native country where he practised his profession for a short period, but soon went to London and entered the Temple with a view of being called to the bar. Here he became the associate or correspondent of the principal literary and scientific men of the day, and was elected Fellow of the Royal Society. Previous to the Revolution, he acted as agent in England for the Provinces of Massachusetts and Virginia, and in that capacity acquitted himself as a zealous and sound friend of American liberty. In 1776, he was appointed, conjointly with Dr. Franklin and Silas Deane, Commissioners to France on the part of the United States, and assisted in negotiating the Treaty between these countries. He returned to America in 1780 and in 1784 was appointed one of the Commissioners to treat with the Six Nations. He executed this trust at Fort Schuyler, (now Rome, Oneida Co.) with much credit. He died, unmarried, Dec. 12, 1792, aged nearly 52 years. He was a distinguished scholar, and a statesman, rigid in principle and unsullied in integrity. His life by R. H. Lee, was published in 2 vols. 8vo. in 1829.—Ed.

It will be unnecessary to Inlarge on the want of Laws, Government, Letters or such other particulars as are to be found in most authors who have treated of the N. Amer^n Indians. These are general observations as generally known To shew wherein they are defective and to acco^t for, by sett^g forth the present state of the sev^l Indian Nations is a subject of greater importance it will lead to other matters more Interesting.

I must therefore observe that the customs and manners of the Indians are in sev^l cases liable to changes, which have not been thoroughly considered by authors and therefore the description of them (as is usual) at any one particular period must be insufficient, and I must furth^r premise that I mean to confine my observations to those of Northern Nations with whom I have the most acquaintance and intercourse.

In all inquiries of this sort, we should Distinguish between the more remote Tribes & those Ind^{ns} who from their having been next to our settlem^{ts} for sev^l years, & relying solely on oral Tradition for the support of their Ancient usages, have lost great part of them, & have blended some with Customs amongst ourselves, so as to render it Extremely difficult, if not impossible to Trace their Customs to their origin or to discover their Explication. Again, Those Indians who are a degree farther removed hav^g still a good deal of Intercourse with our Traders and hav^g altered their system of Politicks, tho' they still retain many Ancient Customs, they are much at a Loss to account for them, whilst those who are far removed from any intercourse with the whites (a few Traders excepted) are still in possess^n of the greatest part of their primitive usages tho' they cannot give a satisfactory acc^t of their original signification, and have so blended the whole with fable, as to render it matter of great difficulty to Separate the Truth from it, add to this that above a Century ago they had French Jesuits amongst them, who partly for Religious purposes, but chiefly to serve particular ends in the Wars they often fomented, introduced some of their own inventions which the present generation confound with their ancient Ceremonies.

So far as the remarks are Confined to the Confederacy of the 6 Nat^s. the Mohocks, who have long lived within our settlem^{ts} come under the first predicament, tho' greatly reduced in number they are still the acknowledged Head of that Alliance, but in their present State they have less Intercourse with the Ind^s & more wth us than formerly besides wch they are at present members of the Chh. of England, most of them read & sev^l Write very well, When therefore they subscribe an ordinary Deed, they frequently make use of a Cross, after the Example of the Illiterate amongst us & sometimes with their names; but in things of much Consequence they usually delineate a Steel, such as is used to strike fire out of Flint, which being the symbol of their Nation, This Steel they call *Canniah*—& themselves *Canniungaes*, but from hence, little can be deduced, as they had not the use of any instrument in that form before their Commerce with the Whites.

The Tuscaroras I omit as they are a south^n peeple not long introduced into the Alliance making the 6 nat^n.

The Oneidas who inhabit the Country a little beyond the settlements, are in the next Class for altho', some efforts have been made to Civilize and Christianize them, a great part are still in the primitive way, but being also reduced in numbers & their political system much changed, their Intercourse with the more remote Indians is lessened, and their knowledge of ancient usages decayed, They have in use [as] Symbols, a Tree, by which they w^d Express *Stability*. But their true Symbol is a Stone called *Onoya*, and they call themselves *Onoyuts* a particular Inst^{ce} of wch I can give from an Expedt^t I went on to Lake St. Sacrament in 1746, when to shew the Enemy the strength of our Ind^{n} Alliances I desired Each Nation to affix their Symbol to a Tree [to alarm] the French : the Oneydas put up a stone wch they painted Red.

The Onondagas whose residence are 40. miles farther are somewhat better versed in the Customs of their ancestors, they call themselves people of the Great Mountain.

The Cayugas who are about the same distance beyond them, have for their Symbol a pipe.

The Senecas are the most numerous & most distant of the six Nat^{s} have sev^{l} Towns & Symbols from wch however little can be understood. and leaving this Confederacy we shall find that the Nations to the North West tho they have their Symbols, they are not able to Explain to any degree of Satisfaction, for as they scatter more in quest of a livelyhood they have not the same opportunitys or inclination to Cultivate & Explain oral Tradition. To the South West the Indians are better versed in those matters but this is a field too large for w^{t} I now propose, tho' by other opportunitys I shall most willingly assist your Enquiries therein.

[With respect to your questions concerning the chief magistrate, or sachem, and how he acquires his authority, &c. I am to acquaint you, that there is in every nation, a sachem, or chief, who appears to have some authority over the rest, and it is greatest among the most distant nations. But in most of those bordering on our settlements, his authority is scarcely discernible, he seldom assuming any power before his people. And indeed this humility is judged the best policy; for wanting coercive power, their commands would perhaps occasion assassination, which sometimes happens. The sachems of each tribe are usually chosen in a public assembly of the chiefs and warriors, whenever a vacancy happens by death or otherwise; they are generally chosen for their sense and bravery, from among the oldest warriors, and approved of by all the tribe; on which they are saluted sachems. There are however several exceptions; for some families have a kind of inheritance in the office, and are called to this station in their infancy.

The chief sachem, by some called the king, is so, either by inheritance, or by a kind of tacit consent, the consequence of his superior abilities and influence. The duration of his authority depends much on his own wisdom, the number and consequence of his relations, and the strength of his particular tribe. But even in those cases where it descends, should the successor appear unequal to the task, some other sachem is sure to possess himself of the power and the duties of the office. I should have observed, that military services are the chief recommendations to this rank. And it appears pretty clearly, that heretofore the chief of a nation had, in some small degree, the authority of a sovereign. This is now the fact among the most remote Indians. But as, since the introduction of fire arms, they no longer fight in close bodies, but every man is his own general, I am inclined to think this has contributed to lessen the power of a chief. This chief of a whole nation has the custody of the belts of wampum, &c. which are as records of public transactions: he prompts the speakers at all treaties, and proposes affairs of consequence. The chief sachems form the grand council; and those of each tribe often deliberate on the affairs of their particular tribes. All their deliberations are conducted with extraordinary regularity and decorum. They never interrupt him who is speaking; nor use harsh language, whatever may be their thoughts. The chiefs assume most authority in the field, but this must be done, even there, with great caution; as a head warrior thinks himself of most consequence in that place.

The Indians believe in, and are much afraid of witchcraft: those suspected of it are therefore often punished with death. Several nations are equally severe on those guilty of theft, a crime indeed uncommon among them; but in cases of murder, the relations are left to take what revenge they please. In general, they are unwilling to inflict capital punishments, as these defeat their grand political object, which is, to increase their numbers by all possible means.

On their haunts, as on all other occasions, they are strict observers of meum and tuum; and this from principle, holding theft in contempt; so that they are rarely guilty of it, though tempted by articles of much value. Neither do the strong attempt to seize the prey of the weak; and I must do them the justice to say that, unless heated by liquor, or inflamed by revenge, their ideas of right and wrong and their practices in consequence of them, would, if more known, do them much honour. It is true, that having been often deceived by us in the purchase of lands, in trade, and other transactions, many of them begin now to act the same part. But this reflects most on those who set them the example.

As to your remark on their apparent repugnance to civilization, I must observe, that this is not owing to any viciousness of their nature, or want of capacity; as they have a strong genius for arts, and uncommon patience. I believe they are put to the English schools too late, and sent back too soon to their people, whose political maxim, Spartan like, is to discountenance all pursuits but war, holding all other knowledge as unworthy the dignity of man, and tending to enervate and divert them from that warfare on which they conceive their liberty and happiness depend. These sentiments constantly instilled into the minds of youth, and illustrated by examples drawn from the contemptible state of the domesticated tribes, leave lasting impressions: and can hardly be defeated by an ordinary school education.

I wish my present leisure would allow me to give you as many specimens of their lanuage as would shew that, though not very wordy, it is extremely emphatical; and their style adorned with noble images, strong metaphors, and equal in allegory to many of the Eastern nations. The article is contained in the noun by varying the termination; and the adjective is combined into one word. Thus of *Echin*, a man, and *Gowana*, great, is formed *Echingowana*, a great man. *Caghyunghaw* is a creek; *Caghyungha*, a river. *Caghyunghaowana*, a great river, *Caghyungheeo*, a fine river. *Haga* the inhabitants of any place, and *tierham* the morning; so, if they speak of eastern people, they say *Tierhans-aga* or people of the morning. *Eso* is expressive of a great quantity, and *Esogee* is the superlative. The words *Goronta* and *Golota* which you mention are not of the Six nations, but of a Southern language. It is curious to observe, that they have various modes of speech and phrazes peculiar to each age and sex, which they strictly observe. For instance, a man says, when he is hungry, *Cadagcariax*, which is expressive both of his want and of the animal food he requires to supply it; whilst a child says, in the same circumstances, *Cautsore*, that is, I require spoon meat.]

There is so remarkable a difference in the Language of the Five nations, from all the rest as affords some grounds for enquiring into their distinct Origin, for the Indians north of the S^t Lawrence those West of the Great Lakes with the few who inhabit the Sea Coasts of New England, & those again who live about the Ohio notwithstanding the respective distances between them Speak a language Radically the same & can In gen^l communicate their Wants to each other; Whilst the Nations who live in the midst of them, are Incapable of Convey^g a Single Idea to their neighbours, neither can they pronounce a Word of their lang^{ge} with correctness. There is indeed some difference of Dialect amongst the 5 nations themselves, but this is little more than may be found in the Provinces of large States in Europe.

In particular the letters M and P which Occurs so frequently in the Languages of the rest, cannot be pronounced by the 5 nations without the utmost difficulty, & are not in their language.

But to proceed to what I have before proposed. The Indians taken Collectively did Certainly a few Centurys ago live under some more Order & Gov^t than they do at present—this may seem odd, but it is the Truth for their Intercourse in gen^l being with the Lower Class of our Traders they learn little from us but Vices, & Their long Wars together with the Immoderate use of Spirituous Liquors have so reduced them as to render that ord^r w^{ch} was first instituted unnecessary & impracticable. Add to this that since the reduction of Canada, their System of politicks is changed, Their

Eyes are upon us, whom they consider as a people too formidable, & much of their Time is much spent in Intrigues of State to wch other matters have given place.

But tho it does not appear that they had the use of Letters yet the traces of Government may still be seen, and there is reason to believe that they made use of Hieroglyphics Tho they Neglect them at present, for Hieroglyphicks are understood to be figures, intended to conceal somewhat from the Vulgar, But theirs are drawn to the utmost of their skill to represent the thing intended, for Instance, when they go to War, they paint some trees with the figures of men, often the exact number of their party, and if they go by Water, they delineate a Canoe, when they make any atchievement, they mark the Handle of their Tomahawks with human figures to signify prisoners, bodies without heads to express scalps. The figures which they affix to Deeds, have led some to imagine that they had Characters or an Alphabet. The case is this, every Nation is divided into a Certain Number of Tribes, of which some have 3. as the Turtle, Bear & Wolf, to wch others add the Snake, Deer, &ca, each of These Tribes form a Little Community within the Nation, and as the Nation has its peculiar Symbol so each Tribe has the peculiar Badge from whence it is denominated, and a Sachem of each Tribe being a necessary party to a fair Conveyance such Sachim affixes the Mark of the Tribe thereto, wch is not that of a particular family (unless the whole Tribe is so deemed) but rather as the publick Seal of a Corporation.

As this Letter is already of an Immoderate Length, I shall only at present add, that with respect to the Deed of 1726, of wch you sent me the Signatures, The Transaction was in some measure of a partial nature, wch I can another time Explain. All the Nations of the Confed^{cy} did not Subscribe it, and those Chiefs that did neglec^{ted} to pay due regard [to] their proper Symbols, but signed agreeable to fancy, of which I have seen other Instances, altho' the manner I have mentioned is the most authentic and agreeable to their orig^{l} practise.

As to the information wch you observe I formerly Transmitted to the Gov^{r} of N. York concerning the belt & 15 Bloody Sticks sent by the Mississagaes, The like is very Comon and the Ind^{s} use Sticks as well to Express the alliance of Castles as the number of Individuals in a party, These Sticks are generally ab^{t} 6 Inches in length & very slender & painted Red if the Subject is War but without any peculiarity as to Shape. Their belts are mostly black Wampum, painted red when they denote War they describe Castles sometimes upon them as square figures of White Wampum, & in Alliances Human figures holding a Chain of friendship each figure represents a nation, an axe is also sometimes described wch is always an Emblem of War, The Taking it up is a Declaration [of war] and the burying it a token of Peace, But as I have accounted for not entering into farther particulars at present, I shall conclude wth assuring you that if these loose remarks prove of any use to you, I shall readily descend to any other matters of Information that may demonstrate how much I am Sir &c.

NOTE.—The portions of the above letter included within [ ] are taken from the abridged Philos. Trans. of the Royal Soc: of London, XII. 407–409. They were added, we presume, to the final Copy sent to England, as they are not in the original draught which we follow for the other portions of the letter. We have taken the liberty to insert them, with this explanation, in order to furnish to the reader all Sir Wm. Johnson's observations on this interesting subject.

A PETITION FROM SCHENECTADY

D.[1]

[*Schenectady, Jan. 20, 1771*]

* * * * *

]
] Jun^{r}.
] Truex
] ider
Cornelius [ ]n Slyck
Petrus Vander Volgen
Anthony D. Bratt
William Hall
[ ] M. Wemple
John Quackenbous
John Jacob Vroman
Simon Vroman
John Van Sice
John Clute
Nicholas Van D. Bogert
John W. Hall
Gerret J. Lansing
Wessel Wessels
Ahaswerus Christeyanse
Jelles Clute
Cornelius D. Grafe
John Corry
Andrew Mitchell
And^{w}. M^{c}Farlin
Benj^{n}. Young
John Heighan
John Veider

John [ ]
Nicholas F. Van Petten
John Wemple
Takel Marselius
John Is[aac] Wemple
Barent Wemple
Arent S. Bratt
Frances Osburn
Myndert R. Wemple
Jacobus Van Eps Jun^{r}.
David Russ
Jelles Brower
Cornelius Romkel
And^{w}. Rynex
Issac Jacob Swets
Gerret Van Schaick
Cornelius Groot
Seger V. Sandfordt
Jelles Van Vorst
Samuel Steers
Alexander Marselius
And^{w}. Van Petten
Frances Veider
Johannes Fort
Jelles D. Van Vorst
Harmanus Van Slyck
Elias Post

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[1] An additional sheet partly mutilated with a list of signers; should be appended to the document printed in *Johnson Papers*, 7:1105-07.

W^{M}. M^{C}ENTIRE
JAMES WILSON
BYNEAR MYNDERSE
JOHN KNOX
JACOBUS VROMAN
HENRY V. DRESEN
JAMES SHULER
RICHARD SMITH
DAVID PEAK

WILLIAM PETUS
JOHN R. MYNDERS
PETER PETERSON
SIMON GROOT
ABRAHAM GROOT
HUGH MITCHELL
JOHN A. BRADTT
JACOB A. VROMAN
JACOB BRADTT
ABR^{M}. G. LANSING
ABR^{M}. BRADTT. —

INDORSED:

Copy of the Petition of the
Freeholders & Inhabitants of the
Township of Schenectady
ag^{t}. Ryer Schermerhorn & Ors.

SPEECH TO CAGHNAWAGEYS

D.[1]

[*Johnson Hall, July 15, 1771*]

S^{r}. W^{m}. Johnsons Speech to the Caghnaw^{y}. D^{ys}. Speech of 15th. July 1771.[2] after Condoling for Onughrageghte their chief a^{bt}. 100 y^{r}. old who died this Spring.

Brothers

I have heard your Compl^{t}. and I agree with you in Opinion that it will be most conven^{t}. for you to hold y^{r}. Lands in the manner you desire that no white people should be permitted to settle there upon. I have therefore wrote a Letter to the Gov^r^. of Quebec ab^t^. it w^th^. a View that the french People may be prevented from Settling thereupon; w^ch^. I think the best Measure to be taken for answering your Desires, and in the mean time I hope you will demean yourselves Soberly and discretely, without entring into any Quarrels concern^g^. it.

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Claus Papers, Diary 5. In handwriting of Daniel Claus.

[2] See Proceedings of a Congress in July, 1771. *Doc. Rel. Col. Hist. N.Y.*, 8:282-83.

a Belt.

NB To mention to the Gov^r^. of Quebec that the Ind^ns^. of Caghn^y^. have the Enjoym^t^. of their Lands while they remain there otherways to revert to y^e^. Crown.

Bro^rs^.

The Story you tell me of the Interp^r^. is not of Consequence enough to give you any Concern, when he spoke in the idle Manner that you represent, /: for w^ch^. he is justly blameable, I suppose he must have been in Liquor or over come with Passion, as you must all well know that the English have promised you Protection & favour, and will afford it to you so long as you deserve it; Continue therefore to act like sincere Good Men, faithful to your Engagem^ts^. And you may be assured that you have nothing to fear but that you may confidently rely on the favour of the King, and be assured of my Friendship.

a Belt.

Bro^rs^.

Your Bro^r^. Col^o^. Claus my Dep^y^. who has the Care of your Concerns in Canada, being ab^t^. to proceed thither is instructed by me to enquire into your Aff^rs^. & to use all his Endeav^rs^. for procuring every reason^ble^. Demand to w^ch^. you can made Pretens^s^.

a Belt

Bro^rs^.

I am sorry to find the Consequences of Philips s Conduct have extended so far & that a chief Woman sh^d^. suffer on his Acc^t^. Nothing in my Power shall be wanting to apply proper Remedies to these Disorders. And I dare say that Col^o^. Claus will be able now to settle all Matters amicably for if they will not pay due Regard to his Admonition, w^ch^. they may be assured will always be for their Good they cant expect my Good Will. —

a Belt

RECEIPT

Copy[1]

Johnson Hall September 28th. 1771.

Received of Mess^rs^. Bartholomew and Peter Vroman of Scohare the Sum of four Hundred Pounds Which they passed a Bond for in my prescence, and that for a Tract of Low Land bought by them of the Scohare Indians which Sum I am to deliver to the Indians when all Assembled in Council,

W JOHNSON

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[1] In New York State Library. Facsimile copy by Rufus A. Grider from original owned by A. G. Richmond of Canajoharie. April 1888. In Grider Scrapbook, Vol. 8. p. 18.

Proceedings of Sir William Johnson with the Indians.

[New-York Papers (State Paper Office) CCLVII.]

Extract from the Proceedings of a Congress with the Six Nations held at Johnson Hall in July 1771.

At a Congress held on Tuesday July 16th 1771

PRESENT—Sir William Johnson Bar^{t} Super Intend^{t}
Sir John Johnson Kn^{t}
Daniel Claus } Dep^{y} Ag^{ts}
Guy Johnson }
Richard Shuckburgh Esq^{r} Sec^{ry} Ind^{n} Affairs.
John Butler Esq^{r} Interp^{r}
Dan^{l} Campbell Esq^{r} Judge of Com^{n} Pleas for Albany County
The Rev^{d} M^{r} Stuart, Missionary to the Mohacks.
The Rev^{d} M^{r} Andrews, Missionary for Schenectady.
with several other Gentlemen.

The Indians being assembled to answer Sir William's speech of the day before Tyorhansera Cheif Speaker arose, and after repeating all that had past during the whole Congress on the sev^{l} Belts &c proceeded as follows

Brother Warraghyagey

We are now assembled to answer you, agreable to what you said on your first Belt and in the first place assure you that as it has given us much concern to hear of any suspicion entertained of our Fidelity, we have given it that serious consideration which an affair of such importance required, and we shall give you as full and true an answer, as we are able thereupon.

A Belt of 8 Rows

Brother,

We have for your satisfaction made a very strict enquiry amongst our several nations concerning the Intelligence that you received but after the closest examination amongst the principal nations here we could not find one single person acquainted therewith, Yet still further to convince you of our sincerity, and sensible that if any of our People harbored any evil thoughts they were not propagated on this side of the Upper Seneca Villages, Sayenquarraghta has last night examined those of the farthest Castle, who are here, who have declared that any evil yet remaining proceeds from Gaustarax the Cheif of Chenussio, who is now under the ground, and was always a busy man, that privately and wickedly concerned himself in mischief in the name but without the Privity of the Six Nations. This troublesome man sent, at the late Indian war, a Belt hatchet with many bad speeches to the Shawanese, and to all the people living that way, but kept it very secret from Sayenquaraghta knowing he was a friend to the English. By this Belt he acquainted all these Nations that he would remove the door of the six Nations which was formerly at his village at Chenussio, down to Scioto plains, and that he expected their assistance to enable him to fight his way there. This was not discovered for a considerable time afterwards, as Guastarax was well known to be a very artful designing man, always employed in mischief. We both dis-regarded him and disavowed his acts, with which we presumed you had been well acquainted, but that you did not particularly notice it, from your reliance on our fidelity. But, Brothers, the disposition of those people who appear to accuse us is well known, and that they are but too ready to quarrell with the English, and as Guastarax's cunning was well known both to you and us, we should not be surprised, if he had at several times since, sent Belts to the Ohio, and particularly when he met so many Indians from thence, at the Treaty at Fort Stanwix, we having now discovered from an Indian now here, who received it some time ago from a Shawanese at the Big Island, that Guastarax had then sent Belts, recommending it to those living at that place, to retire to the great plains, that their young men should apply themselves to hunting for three years, to purchase necessarys for war, and that when they were ready he would assist them. This Circumstance was known to the person who mentioned it Yesterday for some time, but considered by him as a project totally laid aside, and we can truely assure you that we knew nothing even of this, till he told it us, after you had delivered your speech, and that we have never sent any such belts, or messages, to those people, neither have we ever heard of any such being sent by any of the Six Nations, but what we just now mention. We have often observed that the Chenussios are neglectful, we must acknowledge they are very liable to suspicion, they have very often differed from us in Sentiments, and Conduct, and as it is known to you, that Gaustarax was capable of doing any bad thing, we suppose he may have left such Belts with these people, and that they still remain there, of which they now take an advantage, but we again affirm that none of us had any knowledge of them, or concern therein, and we think it extremely hard to be constantly charged with the Acts of particular bad men who neither regard our advice, or divulge their schemes to us, though they may make use of our names as a cover to their badness of heart. A Black and White Belt. 7 Rows.

Brother,

Now having truely and fairly related to you all we are acquainted with touching this disagreeable news, we declare that in case any such secret hatchet should be still amongst the Indians about the Ohio, we are ready and willing to use our utmost authority to take it away and bury it forever, but as Thomas King with our other Deputies are now gone to that Country with the most ample powers for restoring peace & effectually checking all those who would disturb you, or us, we are confident he will bring it away with him at his return, if any such there is; however, should it be concealed from him, & still remain in their hands, we engage as a farther proof of our friendship, and pacific disposition to fetch it from thence, and to prevent as far as lies in my power any such private dealings in future. These are the Words of truth, and our sincere resolutions. A large Belt, 12 Rows.

Extracted from the Minutes of Ind^{n} Affairs & Exam^{d} by RICH^{d} SHUCKBURGH
Secry for Ind^{n} Affairs.

Governor Tryon to the Earl of Hillsborough.

[New-York Papers (State Paper Office) CLXIII.]

N^{o} 5.

Fort George, New York, Sept^{r} 2^{d}, 1771

My Lord,

As doubts have arrisen respecting the appointment of Surrogate and Register of the Prerogative Court within this Government, I beg leave to submit the equity and Propriety of

Extract from the Proceedings of a Congreſs with the Six Nations held at Johnson Hall in July 1771.

At a Congreſs held on Tuesday July the 16th — 1771.

Preſt.
Sir William Johnson Bart. Super Intendt.
Sir John Johnson — Knt.
Daniel Claus }
Guy Johnson } Esqrs. — Depy. Agts.
Richard Shuckburgh Esqr. Secry. Indn. Affairs
John Butler Esqr. Interpr.
Danl. Campbell Esqr. — Judge of Comn. Pleas for Albany County
The Revd. Mr. Stuart, Miſsionary to the Mohocks
The Revd. Mr. Andrews Miſsionary for Schenectady
with several other Gentn.

The Indians being aſsembled to answer Sir William's Speech of the day before Tyorhansera chief Speaker arose, and after repeating all that had past during the whole Congreſs on the sevl. Belts &c proceeded as follows.

Brothr. Warraghiyagey.

We are now aſsembled to answer you, agreeable to what you said on your first Belt, and in the first place aſsure you that, as it has given us much Concern to hear of any Suspicion entertained of our Fidelity, we have given it that serious Consideration which an affair of such Importance required, and we shall give you as full and true an Answer, as we are able, thereupon. — A Belt of 8 Rows

Brother —

We have for your Satisfaction made a very strict Enquiry amongst our several Nations concerning the Intelligence that you received, but after the closest Examination amongst the Principal Nations here, we could not find one single Person acquainted therewith: yet still further to convince you of our Sincerity, and sensible, that if any of our People harbored any evil Thoughts, they were not propogated on this Side of the upper Seneca Villages, Sayenquaraghta has last night Examined those of the farthest Castle who are here, who have declared that any Evil yet Remaining proceeds from Gaustarax the chief of Chenussio, who is now under the Ground, and was always a busy man, that privately, and wickedly concerned himself in Mischief in the name but without the Privity of the Six Nations. — This troublesome Man sent, at the end of the late Indian War, a Belt Hatchet with many bad Speeches to the Shawanese, and to all the People living that way, but kept it very secret from Sayenquaraghta, knowing he was a friend to the English. by this Belt he acquainted all these Nations that he would Remove the Door of the Six Nations which was formerly at his Village at Chenussio, down to Scioto Plains, and that he expected their Assistance to enable him to fight his way there. This was not discovered for a considerable time afterwards; as Gaustarax was well Known to be a very artful designing Man, always employed in Mischief, We both disregarded him, and Disavowed his Acts, with which we presumed you had been well acquainted, but that you did not particularly notice it, from your Reliance on our Fidelity. — but, Brothers, the Disposition of those People who appear to accuse us, is well Known, and that they are but too Ready to quarrell with the English; and as Gaustarax's Cunning was well Known both to you, and us, we should not be Surprized, if he had at Several times since, sent Belts to the Ohio, and particularly when he met so many Indians from thence, at the Treaty at Fort Stanwix, we having now discovered from an Indian now here, who received it some time ago from a Shawanese at the Big Island, that Gaustarax had then sent Belts, recommending it to those living at that Place, to retire to the Great Plains, that their Young Men should apply themselves to Hunting for three Years, to Purchase Necessarys for War, and that when they were ready, he would assist them. This Circumstance was known to the Person who mentioned it Yesterday for some time, but considered by him as a Project totally laid aside, and we can truely assure you that we know nothing even of this, ~~little~~ 'till he told it us, after you had delivered your Speech, and that we have never sent any such Belts, or Messages to those People, neither have we ever heard of any such being sent by any of the Six

Nations, but what we just now mention. We have often observed that the Chenussios are neglectful, we must acknowledge they are very liable to Suspicion, they have very often differed from us in Sentiments, and Conduct; and as it is known to you that Gaustarax was capable of doing any bad thing, we suppose he may have left such Belts with these People, and that they still remain there, of which they now take an Advantage, but we again affirm that none of us had any Knowledge of them, or Concern therein; and we think it extremely hard to be constantly Charged with the Acts of particular bad men, who neither regard our Advice, or divulge their Schemes to us, though they may make use of our Names as a Cover to their Badness of Heart. —

A black & white Belt - 7 Rows.

Brother.

Now, having truely, and fairly related to you all we are acquainted with touching this disagreeable News, we declare that in case any such Secret Hatchet should be still amongst the Indians about the Ohio, we are ready, and willing to use our utmost Authority to take it away, & bury it forever; but as Thomas King with our other Deputies are now gone to that Country with the most ample Powers for restoring Peace, & effectually checking all those, who would disturb you, or us, we are confident he will bring it away with him at his Return, if any such there is; however should it be Concealed from him, & still remain in their hands, we engage as a farther Proof of our friendship, and pacific Disposition to fetch it from thence, and to prevent as far as lies in our Power any such private Dealings in future. — These are the Words of Truth, and our Sincere Resolutions.

A large Belt - 12 Rows.

Extracted from the Minutes of
Indn. Affairs & Examd. by

Richd. Shuckburgh Secry for Indn. Affrs.

TO THOMAS GAGE

Df.[1]

[*Johnson hall 9th August 1771*]

[DEAR SIR]

I Could not till this Moment transmit you any farther Account of my proceedings with the Indians as promised in my last.—

The Indians to the Ammount of 350 being for the most part Chiefs of the Six Nations were all arrived on the 13th. ulto. the day following I opened the Congress which Continued till the 19th, and great part of them Staid for sevl. days afterwards. The Greatest part of the proceedings tho' it took much time contained so little material That I apprehend it will be unnecessary to give you the trouble of reading them, where they do not lead to the main Object I had in View in calling them together. I first took occasion to enquire after News, to Let them know that I had obtained some Intelligence of an Extraordinary Nature and that I apprehended they could give me the best account of it: They appeared at a Loss to discern what I meant, on which I Explained myself somewhat farther, Telling them that I had the best Authority from the Southward for suspecting that Some of their people has been busy in a dangerous business which might have proved fatal to their whole Confederacy, but that nothing could be long concealed from us, and that some of those people on whom they relied were the Discovers, as they foresaw the danger of such an Undertaking, to which I added many other things that I judged Necessary.— They unanimously denied every thing, and requested that I would point out farther particulars, and acquaint them who were the Authors of such a Calumny. I told them in general terms Suffict. to Convince them that I had been furnished with Circumstantial particulars, whereupon they made me the Speech of which I inclose you a Copy[2]

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[1] In handwriting of Guy Johnson; missing sections supplied from manuscript letter of same date in William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

[2] Printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 8:282–83.

I Expected some [Stronger proofs of their Sincerity, and that those who had any] Any such belts should Imediately [deliver them up, in order to be buried, To which I received very Satisfactory] Answer, & they Concluded the Congress by renewing & brightening the Cov^{t}. Chain &c.

Upon the whole I am now (as I have been) Convinced that the Name of the Six Nations is often as formerly made use of by the rest as a Cloak to their own Intrigues, and with a View to Exasperate us against them so far as to force the Six Nations to Joyn in their undertakings and totally withdraw themselves from our Interests.— Indeed I have Strong reason to think that, the Emigrants at Ohio, and great part of the Chenussios are not our friends. The Cause of which I have repeatedly Mentioned formerly, & Indeed very few of the Chenussios attended at this time But If I may be allowed to have any Judgment of these people, or any knowledge of their politicks I can with great Safety affirm that these Sentiments are far from being general, That the Senecas of the other Villages, and the rest of the Six Nations are as much our friends as we can possibly Expect, and that I co^{d}. prevail on a great Majority of them to demonstrate their Attachment, whenever an Opportunity offered.

I hope to be Enabled very soon to give an account of the events of Thomas Kings Embassy, and requesting to be favored with your thoughts on the foregoing I remain with the utmost regard,

Dear Sir,
&c

His Excell^{cy} LIEUT GEN^{L} GAGE

INDORSED:

Aug^{t}. 9th 1771.—

To Gen^{l}. Gage with
part of the Treaty with the Six
Nations.—

P. S. The German Protestants (as appears by their address inclosed) are duly sensible of the honor done them by his Majesty's approbation of their offers to assist Government.

Earl Hillsborough.

Sir William Johnson to the Earl of Hillsborough.

[New-York Papers (State Paper Office) CCLVII.]

N° 16.

Johnson Hall, August 9th 1771

My Lord,

I was lately honoured with Your Lordship's letter (N°16) which I delayed[1] for some days that I might at the same time acquaint Your Lordship with the issue of a Congress I was then about to hold with the Six Nations which was occasioned by informations received by my Deputy at Fort Pitt from a Shawanese Indian and others. The substance of which was, that the Six Nations were concerned in exciting the Shawanese, Delawares, & many others to make war upon us, and altho this had been formerly propagated without any just grounds or foundation I judged it best policy to call the chiefs to a Congress thereon in order to show that such Designs, by whatsoever Nation carried on, could not be totally concealed from us, wch might prove a check on the Nation which first excited it, and render them suspicious of each other.

The Cheifs only were summoned, but many more attending, to the number of 350, I opened the conference the 14th Ult° which held for several days.

I began by acquainting them with the obligation they were under to give me the earliest information that was anywise interesting and that I was surprised to hear from another quarter of some dangerous transactions which might prove the ruin of those concerned, adding that I expected to have the certain particulars from them. On their appearing ignorant of what I hinted at I gave them to understand that I had received an account of their being engaged in promoting a Rupture with the Indians, the event of which must have proved verry fatal to themselves. They gave me many assurances to the contrary and requested to know their accusers, on which I related to them what I thought sufficient to convince any that might have been privy thereto that no designs of any ill tendency could long remain a secret to the English: this produced many speeches on both sides the last of which being the most material I herewith inclose as I did not judge them of sufficient importance to give Your Lordship the trouble of perusing the whole. After this I told them that I could not think their answer satisfactory, until the Belts mentioned in their Speech were delivered up, which they promised to see strictly performed and after renewing the Covenant Chain the Congress ended.

On this Congress I have only to observe that altho there is some cause to doubt of the friendship of the Senecas on the Ohio and at Chenussio, for reasons formerly given. Yet I had not, neither have I, any reason to suspect the rest of the Senecas, or any other of the Confederate Nations. Besides I know it to have been before the practice of those Nations, more remote from us, and who are apprehensive of the Six Nations, to propagate stories much to the disadvantage of the latter, with a view to exasperate us against them, and thereby draw them into their association, and I am confident that if an opportunity offered I could give a demonstrating proof of their fidelity, from the part they would take in our quarrels if required so to do.

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[1] answering. *Johnson Manuscripts.* — Ed.

I have always been entirely of Your Lordship's opinion with regard to the advantages we may expect from the jealousies subsisting between one nation and another, and I have more than once observed y^e like to Your Lordship, I have been also always averse to entering into any of their private concerns. It would therefore give me great pain could I have the least reason to accuse myself of deviating from Your Lordships sentiments, and my own so repeatedly expressed, and I am persuaded it can be sufficiently made to appear that no part of my proceedings, if they have been justly expressed in my pacquets could have a tendency so contrary to the political practice I have always adopted. Indeed it is extremely necessary & gives the Indians a favourable idea of our justice & friendship to appear concerned at their private divisions or differences & desireous to see them composed, but I never interfere in any where his Majesty's interest and the public tranquility is not materially concerned, which was peculiarly the case in the affair of the Deputies sent to Sioto where the Cheifs of the most powerfull Nations on the continent were assembled for purposes that were too interesting to be overlooked, so that it appeared highly necessary to me that they should know we were not ignorant of their designs, & that they should be reprimanded for their past conduct, and cautioned against any future Undertakings and the means by which this was ordered to be effected, as well as the agents made use of were in my judgement the best calculated for that purpose, as well as for keeping up that jealousy which contributes so much to our security. Those Deputies are shortly expected home, when I shall transmit the result of their embassy and I flatter myself that my long experience in these matters, & zeal to acquit myself as an usefull servant to the Crown, will continue to me Your Lordship's favourable opinion.[1] Could my authority extend to the redress of grievances in any thing material we should have much less apprehension from the Indians, but, as my authority cannot be so far extended, Your Lordship may rely on my doing everry thing in my power for the interests of the Crown and the public within the limits prescribed to me, and that faithfully according to the best of my judgement. I have the honor to be with the most perfect esteem, My Lord,

Your Lordships most obedient
& most humble Servant
W JOHNSON.

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[1] of my capacity for the office I have the honor to hold, as after a series of successful services, nothing could be a more sensible mortification to me than the thought of having incurred your Lordship's censure. *Johnson Manuscripts.* — ED.

Johnson Hall, August 9th 1771

Dear Sir

I could not till this Moment transmit you any farther Account of my proceedings with the Indians as promised in my last. ——

The Indians to the Amount of 350 being for the most part Cheifs of the Six Nations, were all Arrived on the 13th Ulto, The day following I opened the Congress which continued till the 19th and great part of them Staid for several Days afterwds. The greatest part of the proceedings tho' it took much time contained so little Material, that I apprehend it will be unnecessary to give you the trouble of reading them, where they do not lead to the main Object I had in View in calling them together. — I first took occasion to enquire after news, to let them know that I had obtained some Intelligence of an Extraordinary Nature, and that I apprehended they could give me the best Acct of it. They appeared at a loss to discern what I meant, on which I explained myself somewhat farther, Telling them that I had the best Authority from the Southward for suspecting that some of their People had been busy in a dangerous affair which might have proved fatal to their whole Confederacy, but that nothing could

His Excellency

Lt. Genl. Gage ——

be long concealed from Us, and that some of those People on whom they relied were the Discoverers, as they foresaw the danger of such an Undertaking, to Which I added many other things that I Judged necessary, they unanimously denied every thing, and requested that I would point out farther particulars, and acquaint them who were the Authors of such a Calumny, I told them in general Terms sufficient to convince them that I had been furnished with Circumstantial particulars, Whereupon they made me the Speech of which I inclose You a Copy. I then made them the most suitable Answer I could, and observed that I expected some Stronger proofs of their Sincerity, and that those who had any such Belts should imediately deliver them up, in order to be buried, To which I received very Satisfactory Answers, and they concluded ye Congress by renewing & strengthening the Covenant Chain &ca.

Upon the Whole I am now (as I have been) convinced that the name of the Six Nations is often as formerly made use of by the rest as a Cloak to their own Intrigues, & with a view to Exasperate us against them so far as to force the Six Nations to Joyn in their Undertakings and totally withdraw themselves from our Interests. — Indeed I have strong reason to think that the Emigrants at Ohio and great part of the Chenussios are not our friends, the Cause of which I have repeatedly mentioned formerly, and Indeed very few of the Chenussios attended at this time But if I may be allowed to have any Judgement of these People, or any knowledge of their Politicks, I can with great Safety affirm, that these sentiments are far from being general, that the Senecas of ye other Villages, and the rest of the Six Nations are as much our friends as we can possibly Expect, and that I could prevail on a great Majority of them to Demonstrate their Attachment whenever an opertunity offered.—

I hope to be enabled verry soon to give An Account of the event of Thomas Kings Embassy, and requesting to be favoured with your thoughts on the foregoing, I remain with the Utmost Regard,

Dear Sir,
Your most Obedient,
& Verry Humble Servant
W Johnson

August 9: 1778.

Received Aug^{t}: 14th

Inclosing Extracts from
the minutes of the Proceedings
at a Treaty wth the Six Nations
in July 1778. —

answered —

Johnsons L 8-4-71

Extract of the Proceedings of a Congreſs with the Six Nations held at Johnson Hall in July 1771—

At a Congreſs Held at Johnson Hall, 16th July 1771.—

Prest.—

Sir William Johnson Bart. Superintendt.

Daniel Claus } Esqrs. (Depy. Agts.—
Guy Johnson }

Sir John Johnson Knt.

Richard Shuckburgh Esqr. Secry.—

John Butler Esqr. — Interpr.

Danl. Campbell Esqr. — Judge of Common Pleas for Albany County—

The Revd. Mr. Stuart — Miſsionary for the Mohocks.—

The Revd. Mr. Andrews — Miſsionary for Schenectady—

With several other Gentn.—

The Indians being aſsembled to answer Sir Williams Speech of the day before Tyorhansera chief Speaker arose, and after repeating all that had past during the whole Congreſs on the sevd. Belts &c, proceeded as follows—

Brothr. Warraghiyagey.—

We are now aſsembled to answer you agreeable to what you said on your first Belt, and in the first place aſsure you that as it has given us much Concern to hear of any Suspicion entertained of our Fidelity, we have given it that serious Consideration which an Affair of such Importance required, and we shall give you as full & true an Answer, as we are able, thereupon.

A Belt of 8 Rows.—

Brother. —

We have, for your Satisfaction, made a very strict Enquiry amongst our Several Nations concerning the Intelligence that you received, but after the closest Examination amongst the Principal Nations here, we could not find one single Person acquainted therewith. Yet still further to Convince you of our Sincerity, and sensible that if any of our People harbored any evil Thoughts, they were not propogated on this Side of the upper Seneca Villages, — Sayan=quaraghta, has last night examined those of the furthest Castle who are here, who have declared that any Evil yet remaining proceeds from Gaustarax, the chief of Chenuſsio, who is now under the Ground, and was allways a busy Man that privately, and wickedly concerned himself in Mischief in the name but without the Privity of the Six Nations. This troublesome Man, sent at the end of the late Indian War a Belt Hatchet, with many bad Speeches to the Shawanese, and to all the People living that way, but kept it very Secret from Sayenquaraghta, knowing he was a Friend to the English. by this Belt he acquainted all these Nations, that he would remove the Door of the Six Nations, which was formerly at his Village at Chenuſsio, down to Scioto Plains, and that he expected their Aſsistance to enable him to fight his way there. this was not Discovered for a considerable time afterwards, as Gaustrax was well known to be a very artful designing Man allways employed in Mischief. We both disregarded him, and disavowed his Acts, with which we presumed, you had been well acquainted, but that you did not Particularly notice it, from your Reliance on our Fidelity. — but Brother, the Disposition of those People, who appear to Accuse us, is well known, and that they are but too ready to Quarrel with the English, and as Gaustrax's Cunning was well known both to you, and us, we should not be Surprized, if he had at Sev^{l}. times since, sent Belts to the Ohio, and particularly when he met so many Indians from thence at the Treaty at Fort Stanwix. We having now discovered from an Indian now here, who received it some time ago from a Shawanese at the Big Island that Gaustarax had then sent Belts, recommending it to those living at that Place to retire to the Great Plains, that their Young men should apply themselves to Hunting for three Years, to purchase Neceſsaries for War, and that when they were ready, he would aſsist them. this Circumstance was known to the Person who mentioned it yesterday for some time, but Considered by him as a Project totally laid aside, and we can truely aſsure you that we know nothing, even of this, till he told it, us after you had delivered your Speech, and that we have never sent any such Belts, or Messages to those People, neither have we ever heard of any such being sent by the Six Nations, but what we just now mentiond. We have often Observed that the Chenussios are neglectful, we must acknowledge they are very liable to Suspicion, they have often differed from us in Sentiments, and Conduct; and as it is known to you that Gaustrax was capable of doing any bad thing, we Suppose he may have left such Belts with these People, and that they still remain there, of which they now take an Advantage; but we again affirm that none of us had any knowledge of them, or Concern therein; and we think it extremely hard to be constantly charged with the Acts of particular bad Men, who neither Regard our Advice, or divulge their Schemes to us, though they may make use of our Names as a Cover to their badness of Heart.—

A black & white Belt 7 Rows.—

Brother.—

Now, having fairly, and truely related to you all we are acquainted with, touching this disagreable News, we declare that in case any such Secret Hatchet should be still amongst the Indians about the Ohio, we are ready, and willing to use our utmost Authority to take it away, and bury it for ever. — but as Thomas King, with our other Deputies are now gone to that Country with the most ample Powers for Restoring Peace, & effectually checking all those, who would disturb you, or us, we are confident he will bring it away with him, at his Return, if any such there is. However should it be concealed from him, and still remain in their hands, we engage as a farther Proof of our Friendship, & pacific Disposition to fetch it from thence, & to prevent, as far as lies in our Power, any such private Dealings in future. — These are the Words of Truth, and our sincere Resolutions.—

A large Belt 12 Rows.—

Extract from the Minutes of
Indian Affairs & Exam'd by

Rich: Shuckburgh Secry for Indn. Affairs

Extract from the Minutes of
Proceedings at a Treaty with the
Six Nations at Johnson Hall in
July 1771.

THE SAME TO G^{w}. BANYAR, ESQ

Johnson hall June 28 1771

Sir

I have received your letter communicating your Directions from the Council concerning the Indian who has applied to his Excellency the Governor for protection, which I wish it was in my power to answer to the full Satisfaction of the Board, but it is impossible at present to know any thing with certainty. Some time ago, this Indian came to my House, and produced a Pass from the L^{t} Governor of Pensilvania. On my asking him some Questions He told me that he was then lately returned from the Ohio, where he had been Visiting his Friends y^{e} Shawnese & others, who advised him not to return to this Province, but that he had resolved to return to Albany as it was the place with which he was best acquainted, and that he would endeavour to procure a livelyhood by becomeing a Battoe Man, but tho he endeavoured to be considered as a Shawanese I found he could give little or no Acc^{t} of that country, or y^{e} People, and verry soon after he was seized, I sent down y^{e} Country. The bill of Sale and other Papers you mention are Circumstances that appear strongly against him, and he cannot prove his assertion from any knowledge of the Language or other particulars concerning his Tribe in the Shawanese Nation, It is certainly a constant practice amongst the Western nations to sell their Captives of the *Panie* Nation, as well as some others their next neighbours under that Denomination, and Canada &c^{a} depends a good deal on their labour, but there is no Instance of their selling any others, neither would they offer to do so, unless some person too young to give an Account of Himself should be found amongst the Panies, whether he falls under that Predicament, or indeed of what Nation he actually is no certainty can be obtained at this distance of time, unless by Enquiry amongst those who sold him, which would take up a good deal of time, & perhaps prove to little purpose; But as I understand that the Person who claims him, is more desirous to remove him out of his neighbourhood, than to make any advantage of him, I should think that if he was sold within these Colonies, or Suffered to pursue the Inclinations he has expressed, paying his Master out of his Labours, what may be Judged reasonable, It would Savour more of Humanity than to send him as a Slave to the West Indias, whilst any doubts remain concerning his People or Origin.

I am Sir,
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant

Golds Borrow Banyar Esq^{r} W. Johnson.

My Compliments to the Cheif Justice & let him know that I have sent his letter by a Safe Hand to M^{r} Lyne.

SIR W^{M}. JOHNSON TO LORD HILLSBOROUGH.

Johnson Hall August 9th 1771.

My Lord,

I was lately honored with your Lordships Letter (N^{o} 16) which I delayed answering for some days, that I might at the Same time acq^{t} y^{r} Lordship with the Issue of a Congress I was then about to hold with the Six Nations, which was occasioned by Informations received by my Deputy at Fort Pitt from a Shawanese Indian & others, The Substance of which was that the Six Nations, were concerned in

Exciting the Shawanese, Delawares, & many others to make war upon us, & altho this had been formerly propagated without any just grounds or foundation, I judged it best policy to Call the Chiefs to a Congress thereon, in order to shew, that such designs by whatsoever nation carried on, could not be totally concealed from us, which might prove a Check on the nation that first excited it, and render them Suspicious of each other. The Chiefs only were Summoned, but many more attending to the number of 350. I opened the Conference the 14th ult^{o} which held for several days;—I began by acquainting them with the obligation they were under to give me the earliest Information that was in any wise Interesting, & that I was Surprized to hear from another quarter of some dangerous Transactions w^{ch} might prove the ruin of those concerned, adding that I expected to have the certain particulars from them.—On their appearing ignorant of what I hinted at I gave them to understand that I had received an acco^{t} of their being engaged in promoting a rupture with the Ind^{s} the event of w^{ch} must have proved very fatal to themselves,—They gave me many assurances to the contrary and requested to know their accusers, On which I related to them w^{t} I thought sufficient to convince any that might have been privy thereto, that no designs of any Ill tendancy, could long remain a secret to the English, This produced many speeches on both sides, The last of which being the most material, I herewith inclose as I did not judge them of sufficient importance to give your Lordship the trouble of perusing the Whole:—After this I told them that I should not think their answer Satisfactory, until the belts mentioned in their speech were delivered up, Which they promised to see strictly performed, & after renewing the Covt Chain, the Congress ended.

On this Congress I have only to observe that altho there is some cause to doubt of the friendship of the Senecas on the Ohio, & at Chenussio, for reasons formerly given, Yet I had not neither have I any reason to suspect the rest of the Senecas, or any other of the Confederate Nations Besides I know it to have been before the practise of those Nations more remote from us, & who are apprehensive of the Six nations, to propagate Stories much to the disadvantage of the Latter with a View to Exasperate us against them, and thereby draw them into their associations, and I am confident that if an opportunity offered I could give a demonstrating proof of their fidelity from the part they would take in our quarrells If required so to do.

I have always been intirely of your Lordships Opinion with regard to the advantages we may Expect from the jealousies subsisting between one Nation & another, and I have more than once, observed the like to your Lordship, I have been also allways averse to entering into any of their private Concerns.—It would therefore give me great pain could I have the least reason to accuse myself of deviateing from your Lordships sentiments, and my own so repeatedly Expressed, and I am persuaded it can be sufficiently made to appear that no part of my proceedings If they have been Justly Expressed in my pacquets, could have a tendency so contrary to the Political practise I have allways adopted,—Indeed it is extremely necessary & gives the Indians a favorable Idea of our justice & friendship to appear concerned at their private divisions & Differences & desirous to see them composed, but I never interfere in any where his Majestys Interests, & the public tranquility is not materially concerned which was peculiarly the case in the affair of the Deputies sent to Scioto, where the chiefs of the most powerfull nations on the continent were assembled for purposes that were too Interesting to be overlooked, so that it appeared highly necessary to me that they sho^{d} know we were not ignorant of their designs, & that they sho^{d} be reprimanded for their past conduct, & cautioned ag^{t} any future undertakings, & the means by which this was ordered to be effected, as well as the agents made use of were in my Judgement, the best calculated for that purpose as well as for keeping up that Jealousy which contributes so much to our security. Those Depy^{s} are shortly expected home when I shall transmit the result of their Embassy, and I flatter myself that my long experience in these matters, & zeal to acquit myself as a usefull serv^{t} to the Crown will continue to me your Lordships favorable opinion of my Capacity, for the office I have the honor to hold, as after a series of successful services, nothing co^{d} be a more sensible mortification to me than the thought of having incurred your Lordships Censure. Could my authority extend to the redress of Grievances in any thing material we sho^{d} have much less apprehensions from the Indians, but as my Authority cannot be so far extended Your Lordship may rely on my doing every thing in my power for the Interests of the Crown & the public within the Limits prescribed to mee, and that faithfully according to the best of my Judgment.

The R^{t} honble The Earl of Hillsborough.

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

Johnson hall Septr. 24th. 1771.

My Lord,

I am hopefull that the Motives which induce me to give you this trouble, will apologize for the Liberty I now taken in Introducing the Inclosed memorial & its worthy author to your Lordships knowledge.

The Rev^{d} M^{r}. Cha^{s}. Inglis one of the Established Clergy of the City of N York, a Gentleman of much real piety and distinguished Abilities having lamented to me the State in which the Ind^{s}. in general are, and observed that there appeared not only a Religious, but a political necessity for the adopting some good System under the sanction of the Crown for the more effectual Christianizing them, I then & afterwards communicated my thoughts on the subject, in consequence of which he has drawn up the Mem^{l}. herewith transmitted, but with a View that it should be introduced in my name, flattering himself that it might intitle it to a more favorable reception,—This I could by no means allow of, for altho the Modesty and disinterested Zeal of M^{r} Inglis, did not Lead him to seek for any reputation to himself, tho' he eagerly wished for y^{r} Lordships Patronage of the proposal, I thought it necessary that you should know the real author as well as his ingenious performance; which coincides with the sentiments & wishes of many persons of Consequence in this Country and from its object has a peculiar title to my recommendation, Independant of its particular merit which I humbly conceive must render it worthy the attention of Government.

Under these hopes I shall only add that as I understand the Rev^{d}. D^{r}. Cooper Presid^{t}. of N York Colledge will have the honor to present this to your Lordship, I should be wanting in Friendship, if I omitted mine in addition to many other Testimonials of his worthy character & distinguished Genius which renders him an object of General Esteem in this province.

As the acct^{s} I have just received will occasion me to make a short Tour ams^{t} the Indians and to write on publick business within a little time, I have omitted Numbering this Letter from the peculiarity of its subjects for which I must again beg your Lordships Indulgence, at the same time assuring you that if I had not thought it worthy the attention of the Crown I should not have yielded to any other motives by giving your Lordship this Trouble.

I have the honor to be &c.

The R^{t} honble the Earl of Hillsborough.

Johnson Hall Augst: 9th: 1771.

Sir Willm: Johnson

(No. 16)

R/ 14th Octr.

D27

Entd.

No 16)

Johnson Hall, August 9th. 1771

My Lord

I was lately honoured with your Lordships Letter (No. 16) which I delayed for some days, that I might at the same time acquaint your Lordship with the Issue of a Congress I was then about to hold with the Six Nations which was occasioned by Informations received by my Deputy at Fort Pitt from a Shawanese Indian & others, The Substance of which was that the Six Nations were concerned in exciting the Shawanese, Delawares & many Others to make War upon Us, and altho this had been formerly propagated without any Just grounds or foundation, I Judged it best policy to call the Cheifs to a Congress thereon, in order to shew, that such Designs by Whatsoever Nation carried on Could not be totally concealed from Us, Wch might prove a Check on the Nation that first excited it, and render them suspicious of each other.— The Cheifs only were Summoned, but many more attending to the Number of 350, I opened the Conference the 12th Ulto which held for several Days.

The Right Honourable
the Earl of Hillsborough —

I began by acquainting them with the Obligation they were under to give me the earliest Information that was anywise Interesting, and that I was surprised to hear from another Quarter of some dangerous transactions which might prove the ruin of those concerned, adding that I expected to have the certain particulars from them. On their appearing ignorant of what I hinted at, I gave them to understand that I had received an Account of their being engaged in promoting a Rupture with the Indians the event of which must have proved very fatal to themselves. They gave me many Aſsurances to the contrary, and requested to know their Accusers, on which I related to them what I thought sufficient to convince any that might have been privy thereto, that no designs of any ill tendency could long remain a secret to the English, This produced many Speeches on both sides, the last of which being the most material I herewith inclose as I did not Judge them of sufficient Importance to give your Lordship the trouble of perusing the whole. — After this I told them that I should not think their Answer Satisfactory, until the Belts mentioned in their Speech were delivered up, which they promised to see strictly performed, and after renewing the Covenant Chain the Congreſs ended. — On this Congreſs I have only to observe that altho there is some cause to doubt of the friendship of the Senecas on the Ohio and at Chenuſsio for reasons formerly given, yet I had not, neither have I any reason to suspect the rest of the Senecas, or any other of the Confederate Nations, Besides I know it to have been before the practice of of those Nations, more remote from Us, and who are apprehensive of the Six Nations, to propagate stories much to the disadvantage of the latter, with a view to exasperate Us against them, and thereby draw them into their Association, and I am confident that if an opertunity offered I could give a demonstrating proof of their fidelity from the part they would take in our Quarrels, if required so to do.—

I have always been entirely of your Lordships Opinion with regard to the advantages we may expect from the Jealousies subsisting between One Nation & another, and I have more than once observed the like to yr. Lordship, I have been also always averse to entering into any of their private concerns. It would therefore give me great pain could I have the least reason to accuse myself of deviating from Your Lordships sentiments, and my own so repeatedly expressed, and I am persuaded it can be sufficiently made to appear that no part of my proceedings If they have been justly expressed in my pacquets could have a tendency so contrary to the political practice I have always adopted.— Indeed it is extremely necessary & gives the Indians a favourable Idea of our Justice & friendship to appear concerned at their private Divisions or Differences & desirous to see them composed, but I never Interfere in any where his Majestys Interest & the public tranquility is not materially concerned, which was peculiarly the case in the affair of the Deputies sent to Sioto where the Cheifs of the most powerfull Nations on the Continent were assembled for purposes that were too Interesting to be overlooked, so that it appeared highly necessary to me that they should know we were not Ignorant of their designs, & that they should be reprimanded for their past conduct, and cautioned against any future

Undertakings, and

And the means by which this was ordered to be effected, as well as the Agents made use of, were in my Judgement the best calculated for that purpose, as well as for keeping up that Jealousy wch contributes so much to our Security. — Those Deputys are shortly expected Home, when I shall transmit the result of their Embassy, & I flatter myself that my long experience in these matters, & Zeal to acquit my self as an usefull Servant to the Crown, will continue to me Your Lordships favourable opinion. Could my Authority extend to the redress of grieviances in any thing material, we should have much less apprehensions from the Indians, but as my Authority cannot be so far extended, Your Lordship may rely on my doing every thing in my power for the Interests of the Crown & the Publick within the limits prescribed to me and that, faithfully according to the best of my Judgement. —

I have the Honor to be with the most perfect Esteem,

My Lord,

Your Lordships

Most Obedient,

& Most Humble Servant

W Johnson

Extract from the Proceedings of a Congreſs with the Six Nations held at Johnson Hall in July 1771.

At a Congreſs held on Tuesday July the 16th 1771.

Pres^{t}.
Sir William Johnson Bar^{t}. Super-Intend^{t}
Sir John Johnson Kn^{t}.
Daniel Claus } Esq^{rs}. Dep^{y} Ag^{ts}
Guy Johnson }
Richard Shuckburgh Esq^{r}. Sec^{ry} Ind^{n}. Affairs
John Butler Esq^{r}. Interp^{r}.
Dan^{l}. Campbell Esq^{r}. Judge of Com^{n}. Pleas for Albany County
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Stuart, Miſsionary to the Mohocks
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Andrews Miſsionary for Schenectady
with several other Gent^{n}.

The Indians being aſsembled to answer Sir William's Speech of the day before Tyorhansera chief Speaker arose, and after repeating all that had paſt during the whole Congreſs on the sev^{l}. Belts &c proceeded as follows.

Broth^{r}. Warraghiyagey.

We are now aſsembled to answer you, agreeable to what you said on your first Belt, and in the first place aſsure you that, as it has given us much Concern to hear of any Suspicion entertained of our Fidelity, we have given it that serious Consideration which an affair of such Importance required, and we shall give you as full and true an Answer, as we are able, thereupon. A Belt of 8 Rows

Brother

We have for your Satisfaction made a very strict Enquiry amongst our several Nations concerning the Intelligence that you received, but after the closest Examination amongst the Principal Nations here, we could not find one single Person acquainted therewith: yet still further to convince you of our Sincerity, and sensible, that if any of our People harbored any evil Thoughts, they were not propogated on this Side of the upper Seneca Villages, Sayenquaraghta has last night Examined those of the farthest Castle, who are here, who have declared that any Evil yet remaining, proceeds from Gaustarax the chief of Chenussio, who is now under the Ground, and was always a busy man, that privately, and wickedly concerned himself in Mischief in the name but without the Privity of the Six Nations. — This troublesome Man sent, at the end of the late Indian War, a Belt Hatchet with many bad Speeches to the Shawanese, and to all the People living that way, but kept it very secret from Sayenquaraghta, knowing he was a friend to the English. by this Belt he acquainted all these Nations that he would Remove the Door of the Six Nations which was formerly at his Village at Chenussio, down to Scioto Plains, and that he expected their Assistance to enable him to fight his way there. This was not discovered for a considerable time afterwards; as Gaustarax was well Known to be a very artful designing Man, always employed in Mischief, We both disregarded him, and Disavowed his Acts, with which we presumed you had been well acquainted, but that you did not particularly notice it, from your Reliance on our Fidelity. — but, Brothers, the Disposition of those People who appear to accuse us, is well Known, and that they are but too ready to quarrell with the English; and as Gaustarax's Cunning was well Known both to you, and us, we should not be surprized, if he had at several times since sent Belts to the Ohio, and particularly when he met so many Indians from thence, at the Treaty at Fort Stanwix, we having now discovered from an Indian now here, who received it some time ago from a Shawanese at the Big Island, that Gaustarax had then sent Belts, recommending it to those living at that Place, to retire to the Great Plains, that their Young Men should apply themselves to Hunting for three Years, to Purchase Necessarys for War, and that when they were ready, he would assist them. This Circumstance was known to the Person who mentioned it Yesterday for some time, but considered by him as a Project totally laid aside, and we can truely assure you that we know nothing even of this, little 'till he told it us, after you had delivered your Speech, and that we have never sent any such Belts, or Messages to those People; neither have we ever heard of any such being sent by any of the Six

Nations, but what we just now mention. We have often observed that the Chenussios are neglectful, we must acknowledge they are very liable to Suspicion, they have very often differed from us in Sentiments, and Conduct; and as it is known to you that Gaustarax was capable of doing any bad thing, we suppose he may have left such Belts with these People, and that they still remain there, of which they now take an Advantage, but we again affirm that none of us had any knowledge of them, or Concern therein; and we think it extremely hard to be constantly charged with the Acts of particular bad men, who neither regard our Advice, or divulge their Schemes to us, though they may make use of our Names as a Cover to their Badness of Heart. —

A black & white Belt - 7 Rows.

Brother,

Now, having truely, and fairly related to you all we are acquainted with touching this disagreeable News, we declare that in case any such Secret Hatchet should be still amongst the Indians about the Ohio, we are ready, and willing to use our utmost Authority to take it away, & bury it forever; but as Thomas King with our other Deputies are now gone to that Country with the most ample Powers for restoring Peace, & effectually checking all those, who would disturb you, or us, we are confident he will bring it away with him at his Return, if any such there is; however should it be Concealed from him, & still remain in their hands, we engage as a farther Proof of our friendship, and pacific Disposition to fetch it from thence, and to prevent as far as lies in our Power any such private Dealings in future. — These are the Words of Truth, and our sincere Resolutions.

A large Belt - 12 Rows.

Extracted from the Minutes of
Indn Affairs & Examd by

Richd Shuckburgh Secy for Indn Affrs

Extracts from the Minutes of
Proceedings at a Treaty with the
Six Nations at Johnson Hall
in July 1771. —

In Sir Wm. Johnson's (No. 16)
of 9th August 1771.

travell'd Eight Days before he saw any Person, and then fell in upon John Miller's, who lives about five miles from fort Pitt, up the Allegany. That they conceal'd him there two Days, for which he gave them the Kettle, the tin cup and the Britch Cloath, that he grew tired of carrying the rest of the things, and threw them away, all but the Gun, one Powder horn and a Blankett, which he made Leggons of. These Circumstances induced Brown to believe there might be Some truth in it, he therefore left Haley in the care of another Person, and came down to Fort Pitt to acquaint Col. Croghan and to enquire if there was any account of it there. There had been no Complaint made of it at that time, & the Colo. did not belive there was any thing in it. He had still some Suspicion that it was true, Therefore went to John Miller's, where Haley had said he left the things, to see if that part of his Storry was right, And took Andrew McConnel with him. That McConnel ask'd Miller, If he had seen any thing of Brown's Servant, for that he was like to Suffer by him, and now there was his Master. Miller and his Wife, denied they had ever seen him; but that Capt^n^ Montour told them, he was gon up the River, and that the Indians that brought him, were but a little before him. That McConnel told them he was sure Montour had not told them so, for he had seen Montour himself. On the which, he, this Deponant said to Mrs. Miller, I know who told you that Storry, It was my Servant himself, when he Return'd to your House, And left the Kettle, The tin Cup & the Britch Cloath with you. But they Solemnly denied it, and Offered to make a Voluntary oath, that they knew nothing of it. That he then told them that he knew Certainly that it was so, and that if they would produce the things, he would take no notice of them; but if they did not, he would prosecute them, on which they immediately produced and delivered them; and this Deponant does say, that a Kettle, & Tin Cup he delivered with said Haley, are the same he got from the said Miller.

Taken September 7th, before me,

A'R ST. CLAIR.

A True Copy.

Further that the Gun that Haley carried of, from the said Brown, Haley had given to an Indian, and that Col^o^. Croghan got it again for him, and that he had another Riffle when he took him up.

Sent in £40 to give Evidence.

CHAS. EDMONSTONE TO GOV. PENN, 1771.

Fort Pitt, Sept'r 11th, 1771.

Sir :

I take the liberty to inclose for your perusal, the Copy of an Affidavit taken here, relative to the Murder of Two Seneca Indians.

I have the suppos'd perpetrator of the Crime in Custody, and intend sending him shortly to Bedford Goal.

I also herewith send You, the Heads of A Speech made by A Seneca Chief.

I have had Several other meetings with Chiefs of different Tribes, who seem all pleas'd with the steps taken in this affair.

I am Sir,
With due Respect,
Your Most Obed't and Very,
Humble Serv't,
CHAS. EDMONSTONE.

Directed,

To the Hono^ble^ the Vice Governor of the Provence of Pennsylvania.

SPEECH OE KYASSHULA, 1771.

Fort Pitt, 10th Sept'r, 1771.

Heads of a Speech delivered to Captain Charles Edmonston, Command^t, by Kayasshuta, Representing the Seneca Tribe.

B^r. We thank you for the Speech delivered to us yesterday, By Mr. Croghan, and alson for the Measuers you have taken to redress our present grievance.

B^r. We heard what you said yesterday, and are pleased to find you have not forgot our Anticent Custom of Acquainting and Assisting each other when any thing happens to disturb our Mutual Tranquility, therefore be assured that nothing shall be Wanting on our part, in keeping bright the Chain of Friendshipe, & being steadfast in the faith we have always professed.

A String.

By Capt^n Edmonston.

B^r. It gives me infinite pleasure to hear that what Mr. Croghan Told you yesterday, was pleasing to you, & hope that an Action (we suppose) Committed by a foolish boy whose bad works oblidged him to quite the white people, & dread of being delivered up to them to meet the punishment he deserved, prompted him to be guilty of the late Murder, will leave no bad impressions on your hearts or minds towards your Brethren the English, whose intention it always was and will be, to keep peace with the Indians; with this String I wipe the tears from your Eyes & hope that Mr. Croghan's Endeavours and mine, will make your minds perfectly easey; the Supposed Guilty Person you yourselves have seen in Irons. I will shortly send him to publick Justice, The only method the English have of punishing Offenders, and hope that you will fall on some method of curbing the Impetuosity of your young Men which will facilitate our Endeavours in preserving peace & Concord. . . . . .

A String.

B^{r}. I take this opportunity of Informing you of the Murder of one of our Women & four small Children Committed some time ago near the Green Briar by some of your people; which perhaps you have not yet heard of, and again repeat my Intreaty that you will take pains to alter the Conduct of your young men.

By Kayasshula.

B^{r}. We have heard of this matter with pain and think it necessary to tell you that the murder was committed by a party of Delawares.

By Capt^{n} Edmonston.

B^{r}. I am determined to acquaint the General and also the Governor of this province with the late unhappy afair, and at the same time to request they will allow me to cover the Graves of our dead friends with a few presents which at present is not in my Power to do.

A String.

By Kayasshuta.

B^{r}. We have now finished our Business, and as my friends pres^{t} have far to travell & are about to depart Contented to their respective homes, I beg you will assist them with a little Rum and Provisions.

By Capt^{n} Edmonstone.

B^{r}. I am perfectly happy that what you have heard and seen has been pleasing to you, and desire that you will assist me in holding fast by & keeping bright the Chain of Friendship.

After a discourse of some hours Continuance on Various Subjects, the Indians departed seemingly well pleased on Receiving some Rum and Provisions, as an earnest of what they said they expected hereafter.

Fort Pitt 11th Septr 1771

Sir

The 3d Instt I recd a letter from your Excy dated 31st July in which yr Excy Says you refused paying a Bill of mine dated 15th May 1771 No 3 for £37.10s Pennsylva Cy In favour of Joseph Spears. I now take the liberty of Acquainting your Excy that it is a Third Bill drawn in part payment of my disbursments, I have already Inform'd your Excy of my drawing but omitted telling you in whose favour And beg leave to refer your Excy to my letter dated 24th May 1771 — For the future I shall Observe the directions you have given me

The 6th Instt I recd your Excys letter of 19th August inclosing an Invoice of Indian Goods for this Post

I take the liberty to Inclose for your Excys Perusal the Coppy of an affidavit taken here relative to the Murder of Two Seneca Indians, I have the Supposed Murderer in Custody, and intend Sending him Shortly to Bedford Goal, I also herewith Send your Excy the heads of a Speech made by a Seneca Chief — —

I have had Several other meetings with Chiefs of Difft Tribes, who all seem pleased with the steps taken in this Affair — — —

It is necessary your Excy Should be inform'd that I have now Five Packets from you to Coll Wilkins, the 1st & 2d the 14th June 1771 the 2d the 19th July the 3 & 4th, the 3d & the 5th the 6th Instt —

I have also Two letters from your Excy one for Monsieur Viviat, The Other for Madame Cretty, all which I will forward by the first Safe Conveyance & advise your Excy by What Opportunity I have the Honour to be

Your Excy Obedient and
Very Humble Servt
Chas Edmonstone

P. S. I have Sent a Coppy of
the Affidavit. & Seneca Chiefs
Speech to the Acting Governor
of Pennsylvania

Augt

Ft. Pitt 11th Septr 1792

Received Septr 20th

Inclosing
an affidavit respecting the
murder of two Seneca Indians
speech of the Indians on
the occasion.

Answered

Fort Pitt 10th Septr. 1771 in Edmonstone 9-11-71

Heads of a Speech delivered to Captn. Chas. Edmonston Commandant by Kiyashuta Representing the Seneca Tribe

Br. - We thank you for the speech delivered to us Yesterday by Mr. Croghan and also for the Measures you have taken to redress our present grievan.

Br. - We have heard what, you said Yesterday & are pleased to find you have not forgot our Antient Custom of Acquainting & Assisting each other when any thing happens to disturb our Mutual Tranquility, therefore be assured, that nothing shall be wanting on our part in keeping bright the Chaine of Friendshipe & being Stedfast in the faith we have always Professed. — A String

By Captn. Edmonstone

Br. - It gives me infinite pleasure to hear, that what Mr. Croghan told you yesterday was pleasing to you, and hope that an Action (we Suppose) committed by a foolish boy whose bad works, obliged him to quite the White people, & dread of being delivered up to them, to meet the punishment he deserved prompted him to be guilty of the late Murder, will leave no bad impressions on your hearts or Minds towards your Brethern the English, whose intention it always was and will be to keep peace with the Indians; with this String I wipe the tears from your Eyes & hope that Mr. Croghans Endeavours and Mine will make your Minds perfectly easy, The Supposed Guilty person you your selves have seen in Irons, I will Shortly Send him to publick Justice, the only Methode the English have of punishing Offenders, and hope you will fall on some Methode of Curbing the Impetuosity of your young Men, which will facilitate our Endeavours in preserving Peace and Concord. — A String

Br: I take this Opportunity of Informing you of the Murder of one our Woman and four Small Children, Committed some time ago near the Green Briar by some of your people, which perhaps you have not yet heard of, and again repeat my Intreaty that you will take pains, to Alter the Conduct of yr young Men.

By Kayashuta

Br: We have heard of this Matter with pain and think it Necessary to tell you that the Murder was Committed by a Party of Delawares

By Captn Edmonstone

Br: I am determined to acquaint the General & also the Governor of this Province, with the late unhappy afair and at the same time to Request they will allow me to cover the Graves of our dead friends with a few presents, which at present is not in my Power to do — — — A String —

By Kayashute

Br: We have now finished our Business and as my friends present have far to Travell and are about to part Contented to their Respective homes, I beg you will assist them with a little Rum and Provisions

By Captn Edmonstone

Br: I am perfectly happy that what you have heard and Seen has been pleasing to you, & desire that you will assist me in holding fast by & keeping bright the Chaine of Friendshipe

After A-- discourse of some hours Continuance on Various Subjects the Indians departed Seemingly well pleased on Receiving Some Rum & Provisions, as an Earnest of what they said they Expect to Receive [illegible] Brown [illegible] according to [illegible] that Mathew Riley an Indented Servant belonging to him the said Brown, had been Run away for some time; that he went in pursuit of him, and came up with him near [illegible] Fort, about two Months after he had gone off; that as he was bringing him home, he the said Mathew Riley, Made the following Declaration, falling on his knees at the time.

I have done a very bad Action to you, but I have done much Worse since I have been away from you; I have kill'd two Indians. Brown Charged Riley with telling lies, and threatned to Flog him; but he persisted in the Same Declaration, making solemn Protestations to the truth of it; saying also that if he must be hanged for it, he could not help it, for it lay so heavy on his Conscience he could not conceal it— Brown then demanded how he came to do it,— He answered that after he escaped from Andw. McConnel, he overtook the two Indians that had taken him up, and brought him to Col. Croghan, in Company with another Indian Man & Woman; that they received him kindly, gave him a Tomhawk and [illegible] of Weapons, and promised him that they would not take him to the White people again.— The third Indian Man, whom he had not seen before the Morning after he join'd them, gave him a Bridle, and told him he must go with the other two and Steal Horses from the white people; That they travell'd that day to the Kittening, where they burn'd the doors of a house there, to get the hooks and hinges— That next day they travell'd into the woods, & towards evening they had kill'd a Bear and a Deer, that immediatly after kill:ing the Deer, they cut it in small peices and Stuck them on Small forks round the fire; That one of the Indians stay'd by the fire to cook the Kettle, and take care of the Meat; and the other Indian and he went to Strip bark to make a cover for their sleeping place— That the Indian had cut a Tree round at the upper part, and he was cutting round at the lower part, Than the Indian gott a kind of a hand Spike to force the Bark off with; and when he was employed about that, and Stooping to it, he struck his Tomhawk into his head; That he repeated the blow a great money times till he was quite dead; That the blood spurted all over his Arms, and the Tomhawk, so that he was afraid to return to the fire, where the other Indian was— But that to conceal it as well as he could, he thrust his Arm and Tomhawk both into a Roll of Bark they had taken from another Tree, and Carried it in that Manner to the fire — That he laid the bark down behind the Indian that was at the fire, and who was then Stirring some flour in a tin cup over the fire, That the Indian turn'd round and smilling and made Signs of approbation at the bark he had brought; and turn'd about again to mind his Kettle; on which he drew the Tomhawk out of the Bark, and Struck it into his head also and repeated his blow till he was quite Dead— That he was immediatly seized with Such fear he could not Stay there; but took a Tomhawk two powder horns, a Riffle Gun, two Blanketts & a Britch Cloath, a brase Kettle and a Tin Cup & he hid the other Gun, and Tomhawk, with some other things, in a hollow [illegible]

[illegible] he was [illegible] and then [illegible] that [illegible]

[illegible] up the Property — That this carried him there [illegible] for which he gave

[illegible] the Tin cup & the British Cloth, that he gave [illegible] carrying the rest of

things, and threw them away, all but the Gun, and Powder horn & a Kettle which he made

use of — These circumstances induced Brown, to believe there might be some truth in

it. He therefore left Haley in care of another [illegible] and came down to Fort Pitt to acquaint

[illegible], and to inquire if there was any account of it there — There had been no Com-
plaint made of it at that time and the Colo did not believe there was any thing in it —

He had still some Suspicion that it was true, therefore went to John Millars, where Haley

said he left things, to see if that part of his Story was right, and took Alexr McConnel

with him, that McConnel asked Miller, if he had seen any thing of Browns Servant,

for that he was like to Suffer by him, and now there was his Master; Miller and his

Wife; denied they had ever seen him; but that Captn Montour told them, he was gone up

the River, and that the Indians that had brought him, were but a little before him;

That McConnel told them, he was sure Montour had not told them so, for he had seen

Montour himself — On which he this Deponant said to Mrs Miller, I know who told

you that Story, it was my Servant himself, when he returned to your House, and

left the Kettle, the tin cup, & the British Cloth with you; But they Solemnly denied it,

and offered to take a Voluntary oath, that they knew nothing of it — That he than told

them he knew Certainly that it was so; and that if they would produce the things, he

would take no Notice of them; but if they did not, he would prosecute them; on which

they Immediately produced and delivered them — And this Deponant does say

that a Kettle, and tin Cup, he delivered with said Haley, are the Same he got from the

said Miller

7th Sept. Taken before me

M. St. Clair

A True Copy

Further that the Gun that Haley carried off, from the said Brown, Haley had

given to an Indian, & that Colo Croghan got it again for him; and that he had another

Rifle when he took him up

Sent in £40 to give Evidence

ceived from the Earl of Hillsborough, dated the third of July last, with its Inclosures, Viz' : an Order of the King in Council of the 24th of May last, respecting several laws passed in this Province, and two Instruments under the Privy Seal, repealing two Laws, which papers are entered on the Council minutes of the 9th of this Month.

A Message from the President and Council to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"As by the Laws of this Province the administration of the Government, upon the Departure of our late Governor, devolved upon us, We cannot, consistant with our duty, omit to lay before you a matter which appears to us of a very serious Nature, and nearly to concern the peace and good order of the Province.

"The making of the present Riot Act, and the unhappy Occasion of it, and the Publication of large Rewards for apprehending and bringing to Justice those daring Offenders, Lazarus Stewart and his Accomplices, must be fresh in your memories. These steps, taken by the Government and Legislature, calculated to discourage and Suppress the turbulent Spirit of these Intruders, and others of the same perverse disposition, it was hoped would have had the desired Effect Yet we are sorry to inform you that the very persons for whose apprehension the Rewards were published, have Lately, with a number of adherents, in open Contempt of the powers of Government, again appeared in Arms at Wyoming, and after seizing upon all their Effects, forced our Settlers there (to whom the Proprietaries had sold the Lands) to retire into a Block House, which they beseiged in a Regular Hostile manner, keeping up an almost Continual Fire from Intrenchments, for the space of sixteen or seventeen days. At length our people, Reduced to the last Extremity for want of Provisions, were obliged to Surrender upon terms of Capitulation, since which it is Reported that the Intruders have burnt the Block House, and are fortifying themselves at a more Convenient place in the Neighborhood, and that they have Intentions of seizing on Fort Augusta and the Provincial Cannon, and other warlike stores there.

"We must inform you, Gentlemen, that upon the first Intimation of these last violences, the Government took every step in their power, at a very great expence, to Raise a Sufficient Posse to enforce the Execution of the Riot Act against the Intruders, and to apprehend the Offenders, and that Several of the Magistrates of Northampton County were on their way to Wyoming with a Posse, when they received Intelligence of the Surrender of the Block House; and upon being well apprized of the Insufficiency of that Force, and that it would require a much greater one to apprehend and bring the Ryotters to Justice, We ordered the Posse to be discharged, and determined to lay the Case before you at your present Meeting.

"Your own Understandings, Gentlemen, will point out to you the fatal Consequences of suffering these lawless people to remain long in the possessions they have thus obtained, as it were by open War. They will probably soon become more formidable by associating to themselves Numbers of Profligate people from this and the other Provinces; of Course they may Extend their possessions by force, as far as they please, take upon themselves, in a little time to give laws to Government itself, and in the end bring on us all the evils which have lately been Experienced by a Neighbouring Colony to the Southward.

"When you come, Gentlemen, seriously to Consider these Important Matters, and that the applying a remeddy to the evil, would, at a future time, call for a more Considerable Force, and a much heavier expence than at present, we cannot doubt but you will Readily give us all the Assistance in your power, speedily to suppress these Disorders, and bring to Condign punishment a set of People who have, in the most daring manner, set the Government and its Laws at Defiance.

"The Secretary will lay before you two depositions which prove the Facts above stated.

"JAMES HAMILTON, president.

"September 18th, 1771."

At a Conferrence held in the Council Chamber at Philadelphia, on Tuesday the 24 of September, 1771, with several Indians of Different Tribes, who came to town on Saturday last from the West Branch of Susquehanna.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, President.

Joseph Turner, James Tilghman, Esquires.
William Logan, Andrew Allen,
Richard Peters, Edward Shippen, junr.

Indians present.

Cheahogah, a Cayugah Chief.

Shawana Ben, Newoaleka, Chiefs of the Delawares.

Jacob Asquash, a Nanticoke Interpreter, And 24 other Indians, Viz.: Cayugas, Tuscaroras, Shawanese, Delawares, Mohickons, Nanticokes and Canoys.

The Indians being seated, the Cayuga Chief rose up and spoke as follows, Vizt:

"Brothers:

"When I was at home with my Nation we were thinking with ourselves about our Brethren at Philadelphia. We remembered that there was an old Road between us and them, in the very Beginning of times, and as we wanted to say something to our Brethren at Philadelphia, and that we should travel in the same road that our Ancestors had opened as a Communication between them and us; upon this I sat out with some of our People, and found the old road that has been used from the Beginning, and travelled safe in it to this City, and we are glad to find the old Council Fire, which which was kindled by our Fathers is still burning bright and clear as it used to be, and that we see our Bretheren. We give you this String to clear your eyes, that you may see us in Council. We open your throats and clean your Hearts, that there may be no foulness in you; we also unstop your Ears, that you may the better hear what we have to say to you, and we likewise Cleanse the Council Chamber, that we may sit happily together, without anything to Offend us.

A String of three Rows.

"Brothers:

"Please to hearken to us, having now cleared your Eyes, cleansed your hearts, opened your Ears, and swept the Council Chamber, I shall proceed to tell you our Business.

"Brothers:

"As we have already mentioned, there was at the Begining a Great Council fire kindled in the City, and it always burnt clear and Bright; of late there was another Fire kindled between our Nations and our Brethren, the English, at Sir William Johnson's, and there we have of late gone, and by this means the old Road to this Council-Fire was grown up and difficult to be found, but we have found it and travelled through it, and are come once more to the old Council Fire at Philadelphia.

"Brothers:

"Our Fathers and your fathers were in close friendship; they held fast the Covenant-Chain and strength'ned it; one held it fast at one end and the other at the other; but there are always some bad people who want to break the Chain, but they never have been able to do it; both you and we have held it fast. We desire to put you in mind that your fathers were kind to the Indians, and ready to assist them, and we hope that you are of the same disposition that they were.

A String of four Rows.

"Brethren:

"When we were at home we were looking towards Wyoming, and observed that the People of New-England were come to live there. Now we want to know what Reason these New-Englandmen have for doing this, since we never gave that Land to them? Being asked what they meant by this? they answer that the New-Englandmen tell some of the Indians that they, the Indians, gave them the land at Wyoming, but we, the Indians, say that we never did give them this land; we who are here of several different Nations, namely, the Six Nations, Shawanese, Delawares, Mohickons, Nanticokes, and Conoys, we all declare that the Indians never did give this land to the New-England People, but we gave it to the proprietor Onas, and to no other person, and we not only gave Wyoming to him, but a great space of land round about it, except the places where the Indians live.

A String of three black and white Rows.

"Brethren:

"We have now fully told you all the Business of our coming here to this Council fire at Philadelphia; we came down all the way from the Mingo Country, on purpose to acquaint you with what you have now heard from us.

"And now, Brothers, hearken to what my Brother Shawana Ben here present, who lives upon the great Island, desires to tell you."

Shawana Ben then spoke as follows:

"Brothers:

"We were informed by Sir William Johnson that whenever we were tired of living on the land we were settled on, and had an Inclination to leave it, we might be permitted to do so and dispose of it; now Brothers, we tell you that we have an Inclination to remove from the place where we live, the great Island, and desire to dispose of it."

A String of four black and white Rows.

The Cayuga Chief then spoke as follows:

"Bretheren:

"I am now grown old, and have been employ'd as a Messenger, and am become stiff with Travelling, and I desire you will help me, and give me a Horse, that I may not be obliged to walk when I go home. I must also inform you, Brethren, that our Hatchetts and Guns are out of order, and we request you will get them put in Repair."

One of the Indians present called Cawandaghsaw, then acquainted the president and Council that he was a Cocknawawga, and was just arrived from Charles Town in South Carolina, and Delivered a letter from Governor Bull to the president, which was Read, and is as follows, Viz^{t}:

"CHARLESTOWN, September 6, 1771.

"Sir:

"An Indian of the Oneida Nation, named Da-ya-gough-de-resesh, called by the English Thomas King, who had been employed by Sir William Johnson to negociate and Confirm peace between the Six Nations and various Tribes on the Ohio, and our Southern Nations, after finishing his important business, arrived here about twelve days agoe, and desired to Return by Sea to Sir William Johnson, and expressed a Strong Inclination to see the great City of

Philadelphia; I accordingly provided a passage for him and his Retinue in Captain Blewer, and Cloathing, and some presents for himself and his Companions; but he was taken Ill of a Fever, and unfortunately died last night. He was to have been accompanied by two Catawbas to Confirm the Peace in presence of Sir William Johnson, but his Death put an end to their Voyage with him; I have sent the Cloaths I had provided for him by his Companion, to be given by Sir William Johnson (to whom I write by them) to dry up the tears of his Relations.

"I Recommend them, the bearers hereof, to your protection and assistance on their way to Sir William Johnson. Your knowledge of the Genius of Indians, and of the fidelity of this tribe to the English, and your own humanity, leave me no Room to add any arguments in their Favour.

"I have the Honour to be, with great Regard, Sir,
"Your most Obedient Humble Servant,
"WM. BULL.

"To the Honourable Lieutenant Governor HAMILTON, Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania."

The same Indian then informed the Council that he had a great Quantity of Wampum, which was given by the Southern Indian Nations at their several Treaties with Thomas King, and that he would show the Wampum to the Council, if they Chose to see it, and according he shewed twenty Belts, and a large number of strings of Wampum.

While the Council was Sitting, a Shawanese Indian, named Shawana John, came into the Chamber, and presented a Petition to the president, setting forth that he had been at Sir William Johnsons, and was sent by him on Business to the Governor of Boston; and that as he was a coming here in passing through Hartford and New Haven, some Gentleman there give him Letters for the Governor of this Province; that these Letters, and his passport, and nine Dollars, were taken from him while he was asleep at an Inn in Brunswick, in New Jersey, and he desired that his loss might be made good to him.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, on Thursday 3d October, 1771.

PRESENT:

The Honourable JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, President.

Joseph Turner,
William Logan,
Benjamin Chew,
Thomas Cadwallader,
James Tilghman,
Andrew Allen,
Edward Shippen, Jun'r, Esquires.

The Sheriffs of Philadelphia and Chester Counties having made their Returns of the Elections for those Counties, they were laid before the Board, and being duly Considered, the following persons were appointed, and their Commissions, with Writs of assistance and Warrants for affixing the Great Seal, were signed by the President, Mr. Turner, Mr. Logan, Mr. Chew, and Mr. Cadwallader.

Judah Foulke, Sheriff, } of the City and County of Philadelphia.
Caleb Cash, Coroner, }
Jesse Maris, Sheriff of Chester County.

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Friday 4th of October, 1771.

The President dispatched by an Express, a letter to the Honourable Jonathan Trumbull, Esquire, Governor of Connecticut, which follows in these words, Viz$^{t.}$:

"PHILADELPHIA, the 4th of October, 1771.

"Per THOMAS ROBINSON, Express.

"Honoured Sir:

"As I have the honor at present to preside in this Province, I have transmitted you the Inclosed Copies of a Deposition and Capitulation, by which you will perceive how the peace of this Government has been lately disturbed by the Violent proceedings of what is Called your Susquehanna Land Company, who have associated to themselves some of the most abandoned and Profligate of our people, such as are accused, and indeed stand Indicted of Capital Crimes here.

"As the people Concerned in these violent and even hostile measures, profess to act under the authority of your Government, and have made a Capitulation expressly on behalf of the Government, I have thought it proper and Expedient to send a Messenger to your Honour on purpose to know with Certainty whether they have proceeded in any sort under your Countenance or Authority, or that of your assembly; And as this must be a matter within your Knowledge, I make no doubt but you will dispatch the express with a Speedy answer to

"Your most Obedient,
"and most humble Servant,
"JAMES HAMILTON, President.

"To the Honourable JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esq$^{r.}$ Governor of Connecticut, at Lebanon."

The Recommendation I will send the first opportunity after I see a few of the Magistrates together.

Directed,

Joseph Shippen, Jun^r^., Esq^r^.

Minutes of a Council held at Philadelphia, 1771.

Saturday, 28th Septem^r^, 1771.

Present:

The Honorable James Hamilton, Esquire, President.

Joseph Turner,	Thomas Cadwalader,	Esquires.
William Logan,	Edward Shippen, Jun^r^.	

Brethren,

We are pleased to see you here at our Council Fire where our and your Fore-fathers used to meet and consult together as Brethren. We now desire you to attend to what we are going to say to you. Before we speak I by this String first cleanse your Eyes that you may see me clearly and the other Gentlemen who are now sitting with me in Council. I also open your Ears that you may hear me the more distinctly. I also cleanse your Throat and open a Passage to your Hearts, that you may the better know and understand what shall be said to you.

A String of Wampum.

Brethren,

I am pleased you have found out, and travelled here in, the same Great Road that was first opened between you and us by our Forefathers. I believe you, when you say that this old Road is somewhat covered with Grass and Leaves and not so easily seen as it used to be. The Reason is plain, it is not so much travelled in as it formerly was. You must well know that the six Nations and all our other Indian Brethren have been told by Sir William Johnson that he, and he alone, has a Commission and Orders from our Great King on the other side of the Great Waters to hold Treaties, and to confer with the Indians upon all public business; and this is the Reason why the Indians have of late years travelled the Road from their Country to Sir William Johnson's, and not used the old Road to the Council Fire at this Place as they formerly did; and it is still Sir William Johnsons desire, as well as ours, that the Indians should continue to go to him, and transact their Business at his Council Fire, as they have done for some time past. Yet I shall be glad to see our Indian Brethren whenever they have any matter of

Importance to acquaint us with, which particularly relates to their Brother Onas and the good People of this Province; and we consider this Visit of Yours as a Testimony of your Friendship and Regard for us.

A String.

Brethren,

We are glad to hear you profess yourselves so hearty in your Friendship to us, and can so well remember that this is what your Fathers have always done: And on our Part, We assure you we never have, nor will, depart from the happy union we have always enjoyed with all our Indian Brethren. We will keep the Chain whole, nor suffer anything (as far as is in our Power) to hurt it. Bad Stories are disregarded by us, as we hope they always will be by you.

A String.

Brethren,

You ask why the New England People have settled at Wyoming, seeing you have sold the Lands there and all round the Country to your Brother Onas at the Treaty of Fort Stanwix, and that you never sold them to the New England People though they say you did. We will tell you Brethren how this Matter is. During the great Treaty of Albany with all the Chiefs of the six Nations, the New-England People as we have been informed and believe made some of the Head men of the six Nations drunk, and gave them money to sign a Deed for the Lands at and about Wyoming, and now pretend that they bought the Land of the Indians before your Brother Onas made his purchase, and that it is a part of their Country of Connecticut; But it is well known that the Great Council at Onondago condemned those Indians for signing any Deed in that private manner, and always refused to stand to it; and all the head Men of the Six Nations assembled in Council at the Great Treaty of Fort Stanwix, declared that they never had sold that Land to the New England People, and that their People had been imposed upon and abused by one Lydius of Albany, and persuaded while they were in Drink to sign those Deeds in a private manner and not in Council. This some of you who were present at Fort Stanwix know to be true. Soon after the Treaty of Fort Stanwix your Brother Onas caused the Lands at Wyoming to be settled, and these New England men have come in Arms and driven them away. But Brethren we would advise you not to meddle with them. For tho' they are very wicked men they are the Great Kings People, and therefore you must not on any account hurt them. We have informed our Great King of their conduct, and he will punish them himself.

A small Belt.

Brethren,

Our Brother Shawana Ben informs us that the Indians on the Bigg Island want to go away and dispose of the Lands. We are sorry to hear this. We think some of those bad Spirits which you mention in your Speech to us have put this in their Minds, for none but bad men will advise Indians to separate from their Brethren without Cause. We desire you will continue on this Island and consult your Uncles the six Nations when you find any Inclination to remove. They will give you good advice. You know Brethren of the Bigg Island that neither you nor we can agree to buy or sell Lands, or do any thing in that matter without your uncles the six Nations are present in Council, and they give their full Consent to it.

A String.

Brethren,

I observed upon your coming to Town that your Cloaths were much torn and ragged. I suppose that this was occasioned by the Bushes and Briars you met with on the Road in travelling here to see us. I have therefore provided these few Goods to cloath you, and desire you will accept them as a mark of my affection for you. A Present of Goods delivered them.

Brother Chealoga,

I have considered of your Request to me for a Horse, and what you say in Respect to your becoming stiff and infirm by being employed as a Messenger to us, and have therefore ordered a Horse to be provided for you to carry you home. I have also ordered your Hatchets and Guns to be mended:

The President then addressed himself to Cawandaghsaw, the Cachnawaga, who came from Carolina, as follows,

Brother Cawandaghsa,

I am very glad to see you here safe arrived from Carolina, but am extremely concerned at the disagreeable news you bring me, of the Death of Thomas King, a principal Sachem of the Oneida Nation. As he was a man much esteemed and beloved by Sir William Johnson, and also by us, as well as by all the Six Nations, I sincerely condole with you in the great Loss we have all sustained in his Death: And, with these black Strouds, according to the Custom of the Indians, I cover his Grave; and present you with these Handkerchiefs, to wipe the Tears from your Eyes.

A Present of Black Strouds and Handkerchiefs delivered to him.

Brother,

I have now finished my Answer to your Speeches delivered to us in Council last week: I observed when you came to Town you were almost destitute of good clothes, that you had worn ym out in coming thro' the Bushes on your Journey. I therefore desire you will accept of this small present of Clothing, which I have provided for you, as a mark of my good will and affection for you. And I also desire you will take into your Charge & care these other goods, and deliver them safe to our good old Brother Newcomer, as a Testimony of my particular Regard & Friendship for him. I now take my leave of you as you desire to return home soon, & wish you a good Journey.

But as He has appointed Sir Wm. to write to him on all Affairs the Indians have to communicate to him, I give you this Belt and refer you to him on this occasion, & shall write to him what you have said to me hereon.

Indorsed.

Minutes of a Conference held by the President and Council with Cheahoga, Shawana Ben, and a number of Indians of different Tribes from the West & East Branches of the Susquehanna, September 28th, 1771.

SPEECH OF PIPE, CHIEF OF THE DELAWARES, 1771.

Brother, the Governor of Pennsylvania:

As soon as the Chiefs of our Nation & the Six Nations had Received your Belts from Capt. St. Clair, I was appointed to carrey them thro' all our Villages, and from them to the Shawanese and Wayendots at Sanduskey. I am now Returned, and can inform you and your Wise Men that your messages was well received by all the Tribes, and they all long to meet you, or some of your wise men, in Council, to Renew and brighten the Chain of friendship so long subsisting between our Forefathers, for our parts we never mean to let it slip out of our hands, and its not our faults if it should; it is not in our powers to go to you, but we know its in your power to come, or send some of your Wise Men to meet us, and it never was more necessary, as this difference subsisting between the Governor of Virginia and the Shawanese gives us all great uneasiness in our minds, & tho' we have suffered much in some of our People being killed, yet we have done every thing in our power to get this unhappy difference made up, and have now sent a number of our wise men to assist in getting it settled at the places our Brother, the Governor of Virginia, appointed to meet the Shawanese, but I cannot tell whether they will agree or not.

A String.

In two nights after my Return to Col. Croghan's some bad White

A MEMORIAL CONCERNING THE IROQUOIS, &c.

My Lord,

The Iroquois, or Five Confederate Nations of Indians distinguished and known by that name, are settled on the frontier of the Province of New-York. From the first reduction of this Province by the British arms, they entered into a strict alliance with the English, which they have always inviolably observed. History perhaps cannot furnish an instance where a treaty of this kind has been more faithfully adhered to. It subsisted upwards of an hundred years without any material breach on their part, if we will only except such as were drawn over to the French by Popish Missionaries, and who, on embracing their Religion, adopted their Civil Interests also.

Those Nations, ever since their union in a League of Confederacy, were greatly superiour in courage and military skill to the other Savages of North America. From that period, which commenced before we had any knowledge of this Province, they have been the terror of all the neighboring Tribes, most of which they have subdued; some they have entirely extirpated. The spirit of conquest carried them far beyond the limits of their own native districts. They have extended their empire over a tract of country 1200 miles in length, from north to south, and 600 in breadth, from east to west.

Their alliance with the English, naturally led them to take part with us when at war with France. The French have often severely felt the power of their Arms. The Iroquois have more than once defeated the united forces of the French, and their confederate Indians; and have carried fire and sword into the very heart of their settlements, threatening them with utter ruin. They formed a barrier along our frontiers against the French and the Savages in their interest; and by this protection, and the lucrative trade we carried on with them, they greatly contributed to raise this Province to its present flourishing state.

The Five Confederate Nations are the Mohawks, the Oneidas, the Onondagas, the Cayugas and the Senekas. To these may be added the Tuscaroras, who moved some years ago from the south, were taken into the confederacy, and incorporated with the Five Nations.

The continual wars in which the Iroquois have been engaged, have considerably reduced their number from what it was formerly. This is particularly the case of the Mohawks. They, by their wisdom in Council and bravery in the Field, had gained an ascendancy over the other Tribes which they preserve to this day. In all deliberations which relate to the common interest of the confederacy, and in the execution of every enterprise, the Mohawks generally take the lead. Being situated the most easterly, and consequently the nearest to our first Settlements, of any of the Five Nations; the Missionaries sent by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, to convert the Indians of this Province, resided among them. The labors of those Missionaries were attended with such success, that in time the whole Nation was brought over to Christianity. This attached the Mohawks more firmly to us. They always stood forth our faithful allies; especially in the late war, though in the course of it, the greater part of their bravest Warriors perished. Our victories were often purchased at the expense of their blood; for they were among the first in almost every danger.

The Mohawks have three villages—Schoare, Fort Hunter, and Canajohare. These are all within the English Settlements; and contain 420 souls. Fort Hunter, the central village, where a Missionary from the Society now resides, is distant from Albany 40 miles.* The Oneidas are situated eighty miles west from the Mohawks, somewhat beyond our Settlements, and have two villages containing 600 souls. Many of the Oneidas profess Christianity; being instructed partly by French Jesuits, partly by a Dissenting Teacher, lately sent among them; but chiefly by the Society's Missionaries to the Mohawks. Next to the Oneidas are the Onondagas, at the distance of 40 miles westerly; their number is 800. The Cayugas, amounting to 1040, are 40 miles southwest of the Onondagas. The Senekas, 40 miles northwest of the Cayugas, are in number 4000, dispersed in several villages; and the Tuscaroras amount to 1000. Very few of the four Tribes last mentioned have any impressions of Christianity. The extensive country, inhabited by all these Indians, is open, healthy, and in general extremely fertile. It is watered by several rivers navigable for battoes, which are very advantageous to commerce, as there are only a few miles of land carriage from Albany to Oswego on Lake Ontario. These Nations are able to bring 2000 fighting men, at least, into the field.

Such a multitude of people, if reduced to Order and Civil Life, and attached to us by ties of religion, would evidently be a great acquisition to the Community. To effect this must therefore be the wish of every Friend to the State; and I flatter myself with your Lordship's indulgence whilst attempting to point out a method by which it may be accomplished; especially as I conceive it to be a duty owing to His Majesty and to the Public.

Manners are the result of Principles. The former naturally flow from, and are regulated by, the latter. Hence we find that Barbarity and brutal vices, such as are pernicious to mankind, have always been the portion of ignorant nations; and that Virtue and the polished manners of Social Life, have distinguished those who were enlightened with knowledge. In order to Civilise the Iroquois, it is necessary to begin with instructing them, especially in the principles of Religion. Christianity is well adapted to this purpose. Whilst it has a more immediate and important end in view, which equally concerns all; it insensibly forms moral habits, corrects irregularities, and disposes the mind to submit to the restraints of Government and Laws; without giving any alarm to the Savages, who are extremely jealous of their liberty, and wedded to their present mode of life.

I shall not consider this subject in a religious view, nor adduce theological arguments for undertaking the Conversion of the Savages. I shall confine myself to such as are merely political; and only mention their conversion as being subservient to the purpose of Civilising them, and riveting them more firmly to our interest. It may not, however, be improper to observe here, that if we believe there is a God, and a future state of rewards and punishments, if our future happiness or misery depends on our conduct here, if christianity gives the justest notions of the Deity, teaches that worship which is most worthy of Him, as well as the purest morals, and promotes the happiness of States and Individuals—if, I say, we believe all this; certainly Humanity should induce us to diffuse the light of Christianity among those poor Savages who have been so faithful and serviceable to us.

The Conversion of the Iroquois is evidently one of the first steps that should be taken to attach them firmly to our interest, and Civilise them. Some progress has been already made in this by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts; and they still support a Missionary and two schoolmasters among the Mohawks. But however willing to engage further in this laudable design, the Society are precluded from it by the low state of their funds. The expense attending it is greater than they are able to bear. A plan more enlarged, and measures more rigorous than their circumstances can possibly admit, must be pursued, before such a change can take place among the Iroquois as would be beneficial to the State in so high a degree, and so extensively, as were to be wished, and might reasonably be expected. The only Resource to which application can be made in this case is the government; and indeed good policy requires that the Crown should be principally concerned in this business. The following reasons and arguments are therefore humbly offered to shew why government should interpose in this matter, and attempt the Conversion of the Iroquois–

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* The city of Albany lies on Hudson's River, almost due north from the city of New-York, and about 150 miles distant from it.

The conversion of these Indians will entirely secure their friendship. This has been incontestibly proved by the conduct of the Mohawks. These were brought over to Christianity by the Society's Missionaries; and accordingly they have always proved faithful allies to us; particularly in the late war, during which they were as active in our cause as any of the King's subjects. They are the only Indians of whom this can *strictly* be said; as they are the only Indians who were converted by us. For although the other tribes of the Iroquois were in alliance with us; yet, through the practices of French priests, and other Emissaries, this only restrained them from doing us mischief. In general they afforded but little assistance in acting offensively against enemies. I say in general; for several men from each of the tribes joined us, and fought for us.

The friendship of the Iroquois should be gained and settled on the firmest basis, as it will be of the utmost consequence to us in case of any future attempt by the French on Canada, or any of the other adjoining provinces. Those Indians who have been christianised by the French, are as much attached to them, as our converts are to us. This is true even of such of the Iroquois as have been converted to Popery by French Priests. In the last century, before we made any attempts to instruct the Iroquois in the principles of christianity, a number of the Mohawks were brought over to Popery, and the French interest by some Jesuits from Canada, the consequence of which was, that they separated from their brethren, removed into Canada, became firm friends to the French and zealous professors of Popery, as their descendants are at this day. These are now known by the name of Cochnawaga Indians. It should be further observed, that there are now many French Missionaries among the Indians—perhaps as many as ever, and their success, already great, will increase still in proportion to our neglect. They are very careful to preserve their influence over the Indians, by keeping their converts steady in the faith they were taught, and gaining new proselytes. They are busy in sowing the seeds of discontent among the Savages, which they will continue to do as long as they have an intercourse with any part of the Continent, notwithstanding our utmost vigilance to prevent it. The residence of a Popish Bishop in Canada will greatly favour those proceedings. Animated by his presence, and united by his authority and direction, the Missionaries will exert themselves with vigor, and having the power of ordination, the Bishop can increase the number of those Missionaries as occasion may require. It must be evident at first view, that if the Indians are thus entirely left in the hands of Popish Clergymen, the greatest inconveniences may in time arise from it. Even the Iroquois will probably be added to their converts; and no circumstance can be conceived more inviting or favorable to any hostile attempt in those parts by the French, than having so many thousands of Savages, all trained up to arms and devoted to their interests, prepared to join them. It is necessary, therefore, that we should prevent as far as we can those ill consequences, which may be justly apprehended, by endeavoring to christianise the Iroquois, and bind them to us by the ties of Religion. They will hereby greatly help to defeat any design that may hereafter be formed by the

French against Canada, or our other Provinces. They will also serve as a counterpoise to the numerous tribes of Indians the French have already converted, and by that means fixed in their interests—ready to take arms for them when an occasion may offer.

These reflections will receive additional weight by considering that the Iroquois themselves have often requested Missionaries might be sent to them, and are much dissatisfied at being neglected in matters of Religion by the government. They frequently express their dissatisfaction and uneasiness on this head. They are surprised that when the present government supports two Popish Missionaries among Indians who are of another Religion, and fought against us during the last war; they who were our friends, who shed their blood in our cause, and profess the same Religion, should be passed over and quite neglected. Their surprise is not at all abated by reflecting, as they often do, that the clamorous demands of those Popish Indians, accompanied with menaces, proved successful in obtaining Missionaries; whilst their mild and equitable requests to the same purpose have been always rejected. They proceed further to make a comparison between our conduct and that of the French in this respect; which is always to the advantage of the latter, who constantly paid the closest attention to the conversion of the Indians. These things they have sagacity enough to observe. Even those who care little about Religion will mention them with warmth; considering all this as the effect of disregard to them; and our neglect of them besides in these matters, gives them a mean opinion of our principles and wisdom. It were needless to say that this disposition will afford great advantages to the French priests, and procure them a more favorable reception, which they will not fail to improve. Under these circumstances the affection of the Indians will be alienated from us more and more; to which the pomp and ceremonies of the Romish religion, with which the Savages are much captivated, will not a little contribute. The only method that is left to counteract this and prevent the bad consequences that must evidently attend it, is to send Protestant Missionaries among the Iroquois. Establishments of this kind, if properly supported, will be a counterpoise to the advantages those Popish Missionaries possess, and to the assiduity of their endeavors. Hereby those Savages who are yet in the bosom of heathenism, may be brought to the knowledge of Christianity, and preserved from their influence; those more perfectly instructed, who have received some impressions of religion, and the false prejudices they have embibed from Romish priests entirely removed.

These advantages already mentioned resulting from the conversion of the Iroquois are very great. It would be making faithful allies or subjects of those who otherwise might prove dangerous enemies, which is a matter of real importance. But besides this, there are many other benefits which would arise from it. Our frontier settlements are extended to a great length; they are defenceless, and open to the incursions of an enemy. Christianising those Indians would not only secure a lasting peace with them; but they would by this means form a barrier to our frontiers against any Indians that are more remote, and might be at war with us. The security of our frontiers would contribute to the quick population of this Province; and among several advantages of which this would be productive, the following is one—that as the lands are held of the crown, and pay quit rents, this branch of his majesty's revenue would be proportionably increased. Our commerce with the Indians would also gain by their conversion. For although it has been alledged by some who knew little of Indian affairs, or thought superficially on the subject, that were the Indians converted to Christianity, and civilized, it would injure our trade with them; yet the reverse of this is evidently true. Indolence, idleness, and intemperance are inseparable concomitants of a savage life. A Savage life also obstructs population. A civilised state, on the contrary, naturally promotes industry, and the increase of mankind. Of course, our trade with the Indians would be benefited in proportion as they became more numerous and industrious

—the consequence of their being civilised, and brought over to Christianity. This reasoning is obvious and just, and supported by experience, which is our surest guide in such matters. The Mohawks, to mention no other instance, are in some measure Civilised. They cultivate land; several of them have learned trades; all have fixed habitations; they have also cattle of various kinds, many of the conveniences of polished life; are professors of Christianity, and as regular and virtuous in their conduct as the generality of white people. Yet the Mohawks are still alert in hunting, like the other tribes, but surpass them far in point of industry in other respects; and have increased much more in proportion to their number, since the late war. It is by no means necessary that the Indians should continue savages in order to follow hunting, by which their trade with us is carried on: That employment is consistent with the duties and manners of civilised life. Many of the English apply themselves to hunting as well as the Indians. Superior affluence only is what will call them from this, as from other branches of laborious business. And it cannot admit of any doubt, that an equal number of people who are civilised, and thereby made industrious, will be more serviceable to Commerce, and to the State in general; than so many Savages, whose wants are few, and who are indolent to the last degree.

I shall not enlarge on so plain a case; but observe, that besides those general reasons and motives which induced the several European states that made settlements in America, to convert the natives, and in doing which they found their account; there are many others peculiar to our situation which conclude more strongly for our engaging in the like attempt. Indeed the English, as well the other Christian Powers, had this object in view from the first establishment of Brittish colonies in America. This appears from the Charters given to the different Provinces; in which the conversion of the Savage Natives is expressly mentioned as one principal motive for granting them. So that the interposition of Government in the present case, is no more than acting conformably to the avowed design of the Crown, in an instance where particular circumstances made it highly expedient.

Perhaps it may be thought, that as we are now masters of Canada, and the Indians dependent on us for Ammunition, Arms and Clothing, there is little danger to be apprehended from them, and that this should remove any anxiety for their Conversion or reduction to a civilised State.

I answer, that this opinion seems to be ill-founded from what has been said already; and the Inference made from it, is repugnant to the plain dictates of humanity and good policy. For surely we should not leave those Savages a Prey to Intemperance and the other miseries of their present state; when it is in our power to alter their condition so much for the better. Especially if it be considered that we have been instrumental in multiplying their miseries by teaching them Vices they knew not before; and that the near approach of the English Settlers administers to those Vices, by supplying more readily what will surely instigate the Indians to the perpetration of them. Justice at least demands that we should apply an antidote against the Evils we have brought upon them, nor can this be done otherwise than by inculcating Principles which will restrain those Enormities.

But were even the voice of Humanity silent, a regard for our own safety and interest remonstrates against the position I am considering. The Iroquois are a bold, fierce, enterprising People, and much addicted to War. If this military spirit does not find employment against a common enemy, or is not diverted into some other Channel, and softened by Culture, it will occasion much trouble, and be directed against ourselves. We have already experienced this since the conclusion of the late French war. There have been several commotions among the Savages since that time, which I shall pass over, and only mention one that was very alarming. In the year 1763, several Tribes of the western Indians, instigated by jealousy at our Conquest of Canada, and our near approach to them, took up the Hatchet against us. They were headed by PONDIAC, a noted Chief, and joined by several of the Senekas. In a few months they cut off no less than eight of our outposts, and totally defeated several detachments of His Majesty's Troops that were sent against them. They also depopulated our frontiers to a great extent and ruined the Indian trade in many places. It was with great difficulty and expense, after much time and the loss of many lives, that this Insurrection was quelled. To these Insurrections we shall be continually exposed, whilst the Indians are unprincipled and unsettled as at present. They will be ever turbulent, ready to kindle the Flames of War on the slightest neglect or provocation; and the inconveniences arising from such Insurrections are too glaring to require a particular delineation. Besides the injury to Trade, the obstruction to Population, which they must occasion, and the lives that will be lost before they can be suppressed; *one* of those Insurrections may put the Crown to greater expense than would be sufficient to support for several years the measures proposed to convert and civilise the Indians; by which they would *forever* become peaceable Subjects, and useful Members of society. Let me add that the Indians, who are very numerous, will always have it in their power to distress our Trade and Frontiers much; nor will they be at a loss for means to enable them to carry on those hostilities. Besides the resources they can have for Ammunition, Arms and Clothing from the Spaniards by way of the Mississipi, or secretly from the French of Canada; there are many in our Colonies, who, for love of lucre, would supply them with whatever they wanted. This has been already done, when the Brittish Empire in America was in the greatest danger, and several of its Provinces reeking with the blood of their inhabitants. The utmost vigilance of Government cannot put a stop to this; and there is no reason to imagine our Virtue and public spirit are increased, or will increase, so far as to prevent it entirely. I may venture to affirm that it is more necessary now than ever to cultivate a friendship with the Iroquois, and secure their fidelity. The success of our arms against Canada has raised the jealousy of almost all the Indians. They are apprehensive that their liberties are now in great danger, as the English, (of whom the western tribes knew little before, and whom the French taught them to despise,) have gained such an ascendancy in North America. They observe our progress with a jealous eye, and will seize every opportunity of combining to oppose and distress us. Against such combinations the Iroquois would be a sufficient barrier and security, were they by proper care fixed in our interest.

To these Considerations others of great weight, and to the same purpose might be added respecting the French, in case of any design on Canada. I shall not repeat what has been already said on this head, but content myself with observing, that all human affairs are very fluctuating and subject to great Revolutions. Our possession of Canada is a proof of it. The time may come when things will take a different turn, and the friendship of the Indians be of great consequence to us. No person can reasonably doubt, however peaceable and satisfied the Roman Catholic subjects in that Province may appear at present; that they still retain a strong affection for their former Government, and for their countrymen, whose Religion, Manners, and Language are the same with their own. Their Indian converts are still fixed in their interests, and daily increasing. The encroachments of the French on the Iroquois, by which a spirit of animosity was formerly kept alive between them, and the latter were inclined to us, are now at an end. Their animosity will naturally cease with its cause; and this again will pave the way for proselyting the Iroquois to the Romish faith, by which their affections will be withdrawn from us. Now can any circumstance be more alluring than these to put the French on regaining what was torn from them by the chance of War; or promise more success to such an attempt? If that enterprizing Nation, in order to perplex us, and divert our arms, could send a Pretender on so hopeless an errand as the conquest of Britain; can we imagine they will not avail themselves of such advantages to become masters of their ancient Possessions? These matters surely call for serious attention. Prudence should lead us to guard against future contingences as far as possible, and caution us against being lulled into security, when danger is to be justly apprehended. It should direct us to deprive the French of those advantages which in all probability they will employ against us; and improve such as we have to the utmost of our power. Our neglect of the Indians will throw their whole weight into the opposite scale, and encourage the French to prosecute any schemes they may form against Canada. Whereas by proper endeavors to convert and civilise the Indians, their fidelity to us might be immoveably fixed. They would greatly help to secure us against any foreign Invasions, and in other respects prove beneficial to the Community. It is in truth a matter in which the Peace, Safety and Welfare of those Northern Colonies are much concerned; and it is hoped the wisdom of government will attend to it accordingly.

To ensure success in the execution of any design, much depends on pursuing proper measures. If these are ill-concerted, or not adapted to the end in view, a failure of the whole will probably follow. In attempting to convert and civilise Savages, great attention should be paid to their Situation, Prejudices, Temper, Disposition, and other circumstances. These should be minutely considered; and made as subservient as possible to the general design. Should Government, influenced by the above motives, think fit to engage in this Undertaking with respect to the Iroquois, the following Plan is humbly proposed; in which I shall keep within the strict Bounds of what is practicable, and promises success on the one hand; and avoid any unnecessary expense, as well as what would tend to give Umbrage to the Indians, on the other. For sake of Order and Perspicuity, I shall range under distinct heads the several parts of this Plan, in which I would propose—

I. That two Missionaries, men of good character, abilities, and prudence, and in the orders of the established Church of England, be sent to the Iroquois, one to reside at Conajohare, the other at the old Oneida Town. Most of the Indians at both these villages have been baptised, and even profess Christianity; all are willing to be further instructed. Each of these Missionaries should have a Salary of £150 sterl. a year at least; to enable them to shew some marks of favor to the more deserving Indians, by making small Presents to them from time to time. This will be expected from them, and if judiciously managed, will have a good effect in conciliating the affections of the Indians. If these Missionaries had some knowledge of Physic, so as to be able to assist the Indians in sickness, it would also increase their influence, and make their Spiritual Labors more successful.

II. That a Schoolmaster be fixed at each of those villages, viz: Conajohare, and the old Oneida Town; another at Onondaga; one at the principal village of the Cayugas, and two among the Senekas. These Schoolmasters, for whom admission and protection may be easily procured, should be prudent, and virtuous young men, and such as have had a liberal education. Their business will be to teach the Indians to read and write. They ought also to apply themselves diligently to learn the Indian Language; by which they will be better qualified to act as Missionaries afterwards, should their behaviour and merit entitle them to that office. Schools, if properly conducted, will be of infinite service. The Indians are all willing that their Children should be taught to read and write; and Youth is the properest season to instill principles of Morality and Religion, which the Schoolmasters will have constant opportunities of doing. Of these they ought to avail themselves; and gradually unfold the Principles of the Christian Systems to their pupils. Each of those Schoolmasters ought to have a salary of £40 Sterl. a year, which might be increased according to their industry and success. They also, as well as the Missionaries, should be furnished with

Prayer-books, and such other Tracts in the Indian language as can be procured; which will be necessary to teach the Indians to read, and instruct them in the principles of Religion.

III. That Smiths be placed at some of the most convenient Indian Villages. These would be of great service to the Indians, and therefore very acceptable; and probably some of the Indians, from a sense of their utility might be induced to learn their Trade. Their Wives might also be engaged to teach such of the Indian women as are willing to learn Spinning, Sewing and other Branches of female Industry. The Government formerly allowed Smiths at several of the Indian Villages, with a competent salary. These Mechanics would now be of much service in promoting the general design, and might be had at a trifling expense. The Spaniards have employed mechanics, and do still, for the same purpose to great advantage.

IV. That the Missionaries and Schoolmasters employed in this Scheme be appointed, or at least approved, by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. The Superintendency of those matters naturally belongs to that Venerable Body, not only by reason that they coincide with the design of their Incorporation, and with their connections on this Continent, but also because the Society have with great fidelity discharged the important trust reposed in them, and have already done much towards Converting and Civilising the Iroquois. It is therefore proposed that they have the Care and Direction of the Missions specified in this Plan; that the Missionaries and Schoolmasters shall regularly transmit to them accounts of their respective charges from time to time, in the same manner as those Missionaries and Schoolmasters in the Society's service do at present; to be annually laid before the Public, with their other Transactions. That the Missionaries, Schoolmasters and Mechanics, however, be under the immediate inspection of His Majesty's Superintendant of Indian Affairs for the time being. His Station and Authority among the Indians will enable him to promote the execution of this Scheme. He will be the properest Person to direct the several Measures that shall be necessary on any new emergencies; and through him, in conjunction with the Society, applications to Government should be made, in matters relative to those Missions. It will be proper that the Superintendant of Indian Affairs should be thus concerned in the Management of those Matters, because it will be of Utility to the general Design; and also that he may see that such steps be taken as are consistent with the Interests of Trade, and the Views of Government respecting the Indians.

V. That a set of Rules and Instructions be prepared by the Society for the Regulation of the Missionaries and Schoolmasters in the Discharge of their Respective Duties, which Rules and Instructions however shall, for the reasons already mentioned, be inspected and approved by His Majesty's Superintendant of Indian Affairs, previous to their Establishment. In drawing up these Instructions, particular Care should be taken to caution the Missionaries and Schoolmasters to be prudent in their Conduct, and to avoid whatever might give offence to the Indians, or awaken their Jealousy. Diligence in their Station, Sobriety, Gentleness, Condescension, and a disinterested Regard to the Welfare of the Indians, should be recommended, and that they sedulously inculcate Principles of Loyalty among their Hearers, Converts and Pupils.

VI. The last Article I shall mention as necessary to compleat this Plan, and make it more extensively useful, is the erecting a College or Seminary in the old Oneida Town, where the Young Indians who are distinguished for their Genius, may repair for a more enlarged Education, and be fitted for the Ministry. Very few of the Indians can be prevailed on to let their Children go any great Distance for Instruction, and when they are persuaded to it, the Children always go with Reluctance. They are continually anxious to return to their Parents and Brethren, which is an Obstruction to their literary Progress; and when they return to their own People they generally run into the greater Excesses for their former Restraints. It is therefore a mistaken Notion that Seminaries at a

Distance from the Indians and only among Christians, are fittest for the Education of Indian Youths. Besides the Difficulty of bringing them to such Seminaries, and the small Degree of Improvement they carry from them, it serves to raise their Jealousy, and the Transition is too great and too sudden, from their former mode of Life, to that which they must hereby enter upon. Any Change in the Manners of a Savage People, who have an high Sense of liberty, like the Iroquois, should be gradually effected. It should in some measure be the Result of their own Choice, as being apparently expedient, not of any Violence; which will not fail to rivet them firmly to their Customs, and shut their Minds against Reason and Conviction. The Indian Country is evidently the properest Place to fix a Seminary for this Purpose, where the Parents can frequently see their Children; by which all Uneasiness would be removed from both, and those other Inconveniences avoided. It would also be pleasing to the Indians in general. They would look upon it as a Mark of our Regard, and Confidence in them. This would serve to reconcile them to the Instructions and Discipline of a College; and induce them to encourage the Institution, even from a Principle of Gratitude. But I shall not enlarge on this Head, as this Seminary is not immediately necessary. It must be the Work of Time; after the other Parts of the preceding Plan are carried into Execution, and a considerable Progress is made in each.

After much Reflection on the State and Disposition of the Indians, and receiving the best Information from those who had an intimate intercourse with them for many years, I am persuaded that this Plan is well adapted to their Circumstances, and would, if duly executed, produce the desired Effect in converting them to Christianity. If that can once be Accomplished, their firm Attachment to us will naturally follow, and their Reduction to a civilised State will be gradually and insensibly promoted at the same Time. Too much should not be attempted at first; especially in civilising them. It would probably alarm them, and thereby defeat the whole Design. The more westerly Tribes have yet received few Impressions of Christianity, and are least civilised. These should therefore be treated with more Caution than the Tribes that are near, or surrounded by, our Settlements. The latter from their Intercourse with the English, have adopted some of our Manners, and Customs, and having some knowledge of Religion already, are very desirous of further Instruction. All indeed are willing to be taught to read and write so that Schoolmasters may be sent immediately to all the principal Villages of the Confederacy, as is mentioned under the second article of the Plan. These will have an opportunity of preparing the Way for Missionaries among the remote Tribes; and the latter may be introduced in a little Time, without giving any Alarm to the Savages. It will therefore be necessary to increase the Number of Missionaries, as the Indians are in a proper Disposition to receive them; and with them, Mechanics may be gradually admitted. When Matters are thus far advanced, the Work may be looked on as good as accomplished; for the remaining Difficulties and Obstructions with Respect to the Indians, will be easily surmounted. A Seminary at Oneida will then be of singular use, and compleat the whole. In this Plan I have said Nothing of Interpreters, which will be necessary for the Missionaries and Schoolmasters when they first begin; because I imagine they may be procured at a moderate Expence; and even that may be laid aside in a little Time, when the Missionaries and Schoolmasters have attained some Knowledge of the Indian Language, which is by no means difficult for a Person of tolerable Capacity.

Having thus laid down the Plan which I conceive should be pursued in this Business, I proceed to point out some Circumstances which promise Success to the Attempt at this Time.

The general Peace now subsisting among the Indians is very favourable to this Design. In former Times, the Iroquois were almost continually engaged in War; either with the French, or some of the neighbouring Indians. A State of War must necessarily obstruct their Conversion, as all their

Men are on these Occasions called into the Field; their Country also is in perpetual Alarms, often a Scene of Blood and Desolation. In Times of Peace, like the present, the Inconveniencies are removed; and they are at Leisure to attend instruction.

Our possession of Canada is another Circumstance peculiarly favorable to the Conversion of the Iroquois, which did not exist till lately. When the French were Masters of that Province, they were sensible of how much Consequence the Friendship of the Indians was to the Security, Trade, and Growth, of their Colony. The Government therefore gave all possible Encouragement and Assistance to their Missionaries in converting the Savages. To this and the zeal of those Missionaries, who were generally Men of Abilities, must be attributed the great Success they had in making Indian Converts. The Iroquois are too considerable to be overlooked by a People so discerning and attentive to their Interest as the French. They earnestly courted, and with much Assiduity, the Friendship and alliance of the Iroquois. These Overtures were, for the most Part, rejected by the latter; owing in a great Measure to their Connection with us: And altho' the French were generally at War with the Iroquois, yet their Priests had sufficient address to gain Admittance among them, and proselyte many. This gave them an Opportunity of throwing many Difficulties in the Way of our Missionaries, which they have failed to improve. They stuck at Nothing however infamous for this Purpose. They invented and propagated the most glaring Falsehoods to prejudice the Indians against us. They did not even hesitate to persuade them that *the English were the People who crucified Jesus Christ*, and that *the Books used by our Missionaries were written by the Devil.* These Falsehoods gained Credit among the Ignorant Savages, especially the Popish Converts; and the Society's Missionaries sensibly felt their effects. They met with insuperable Obstructions in the Discharge of their Duty; their Lives were often in Danger, and they were obliged to fly for their Preservation. The Scene is greatly changed at present; for although our Possession of Canada does not intirely Guard us against the Practices of Popish Emissaries; yet it will secure us from the Incursions of an enemy, and enable us in some Measure to confine the Priests to their own Tribes. Any Interruption they may give, cannot defeat the Scheme; and may serve as a spur to the Industry of our Missionaries, who, having the Authority of Government on their Side, will thence derive great advantages; such as must give them a Manifest Superiority. I shall just add, that from the above Specimen we may judge what Impressions the Indian Converts to Popery are likely to receive of us from their Priests; and what Methods the latter are capable of using to prejudice them against us. For we cannot with any Colour of Reason suppose their Indian Missionaries are more conscientious now than formerly, less bigotted to their own Religion, or entertain more favourable sentiments of ours. There is the clearest Proof of the contrary.

The advanced Population of our Frontiers will greatly facilitate the Conversion of the Iroquois. Formerly there were very few English Inhabitants near the Indian Villages, which subjected our Missionaries to numberless hardships and embarrassments. Removed far from our settlements, they could seldom converse with any but Savages. They often found it difficult to procure the common Necessaries of Life, or a Place of Refuge in Times of Danger, which were frequent. They were obliged to rely for immediate support and Protection on the Indians only; many of whom were not well affected to Christianity; all of them exposed to the Ravages of a barbarous Enemy. These Inconveniences, like the former, are now no more. Our Settlements surround some of the Indian Villages, and are not very Distant from others; so that Missionaries may be readily supplied with whatever Necessaries they want, and will be under no apprehension of Danger to their Lives. Even the Indians, by their Vicinity to the English, and Intercourse with them, are become much more tractable and humane. In reality the State of Things is intirely changed from what it was formerly in this Respect; and all to the Advantage of the Design now under Consideration. But the most favourable circumstance, and what promises success the most of any to an attempt for converting the Iroquois, is the Desire of the Iroquois themselves that Missionaries might be sent to instruct them in the Principles of Christianity. They have repeatedly made this Request, and have urged it with much Earnestness, particularly at a Congress lately held, where 2,100 Indians from the different Tribes were present. This shews a general Disposition in the Iroquois to embrace Christianity; and that the Plan now proposed would be successful.

These particulars might be enlarged, were it necessary, and others added to them which would evince this point further. But enough has been said, in my humble opinion, to remove any Apprehension of a Failure in the Success of the Scheme now laid down; or that the Expence and Trouble attending it would be fruitless. For my Part, I would be the last Person to recommend such a Measure, had I not as great a certainty as the Nature of the Case will admit, of its Success, as well as of its general Utility.

But altho I am fully satisfied on this Head; yet I am sensible that Objections have been raised concerning it. It will therefore be proper in this Place briefly to obviate these: Because however weak or ill-founded, they may influence even the Judicious for Want of due Information; and I would willingly lay before your Lordship, in as clear and concise a manner as I could, whatever might tend to elucidate the Subject. I shall select some of the most plausible Objections that have come to my Knowledge.

Among other Things it has been suggested—"That the "Iroquois are such an ignorant, barbarous People, that they are "incapable of being civilised or brought over to Christianity."

But this Language is manifestly dictated by Prejudice, I grant the Iroquois are ignorant, when compared with civilised Nations; but certainly we should distinguish between Ignorance and Dulness—between the Want of Knowledge and the Want of Capacity to receive it. Whoever has any Acquaintance with the Iroquois, must know they are not deficient in Point of Understanding. No People have more Sagacity to discern their Interest, according to their prevailing Notions, or can reason better on it; none can project Schemes with more Subtilty to promote it, or have more Spirit and Resolution to carry those Schemes into Execution. Their Speeches at Treaties, their Conversation and Conduct are incontestable Proofs of this. Besides it is well known that such of them as will learn to read and write, generally make a more rapid Progress than Persons of the same Age among us. It may then with Truth be affirmed, that the Indians are not inferior in their Intellectual Faculties to other Nations, or less capable of Improvement. Their Knowledge indeed, for Want of Culture, is confined within a narrow Circle; but notwithstanding, they shew a Discernment, and a Force of Understanding, which place them on a Level with the Best of Mankind.

It is further granted that the Iroquois are barbarous; but this by no means proves that they are incapable of being civilised. We know of very few Nations which were not originally as barbarous as they. No ancient People surpassed the Greeks in Knowledge, Policy and Refinement of Manners; or left to the World such Monuments of exalted genius. Yet History testifies that the Greeks were once extremely rude and savage—much more so than the Iroquois at present. Without Letters, Laws, or Policy, or even Food proper for Men, they wandered in Fields and Woods, having no Places of Shelter, but Dens and Caverns. Their own Writers, and those of best Note, confirm this Account; and that many Ages had elapsed before they emerged out of this brutal State. It was by very slow steps, by repeated Efforts of wise and great Men, that they rose to that Eminence which afterwards so much distinguished them. About the Commencement of the Christian Era, the Germans and Britons were as barbarous as the Indians of this Continent, whom they greatly resembled in many Particulars. Yet experience hath evinced that those Nations were as capable of Improvement as any upon Earth.

As to the American Indians, it is certain that the Mexican, a Nation of North America, were civilized in a high Degree ; when first discovered by the Europeans. This was also the Case with the Peruvians ; and altho the latter were Inhabitants of South America, yet the near resemblance between all the Natives of this vast Continent, affords the strongest Presumption that they are equally capable of being civilised. That the superior Attainments of one Nation above others, in Knowledge, Arts and Policy, were owing here, as well as in other Parts of the World, to local circumstances, and other Accidents, not to any inherent Difference in the People, appears from the following Instance. The Indians of Paraguay, for several years after the arrival of the Spaniards, were among the most Savage of the Inhabitants of South America, yet by the Endeavours and Labours of the Jesuits, they are now reduced to civil Life, are regular, industrious Members of Society, and zealous Professors of Popery.

These Reflections might be carried much further. But I shall only observe, that the Iroquois resemble other barbarous Nations, seem to have much the same Vices, and are equally attached to their own Manners. They also possess the same Faculties, with as great a share of Reason and understanding, as others of the human Species in general. Experience hath demonstrated that the most ignorant and barbarous People may be civilised ; and why not here as well as elsewhere ? I am persuaded that no solid Reason can be assigned why the Iroquois should be an Exception to the general Rule. Human Nature is much the same in every Clime and Age. Culture, with other external Circumstances, constitute the principal Difference betwen the various Parts of Mankind. For we find the same Nation, at different Periods, differ from itself, in Point of Manners, as much as the most distant Nations, can differ from each other.

It is certain that the Mohawks, from the Impressions of Religion they have received, and their Intercourse with the English, have already made considerable Progress towards civilised Life. Were proper Measures taken for the Purpose, there can be no Doubt, but much more might be done this Way. Nothing but the Want of those Measures, and their Connections with the Nations of their Confederacy, still buried in Darkness and Barbarity, at the Head of which they are ambitious to figure, prevent it. If the Mohawks were intirely to adopt our Manners, their Influence over the other Tribes would be at an End. But if these Tribes were instructed as They are, the Case would be very different.

As to the Notion that the Iroquois cannot be converted to Christianity, it is utterly groundless. Not to mention the great Number of Converts made by the French among Nations bordering on the Iroquois, and equally barbarous ; the Success of the few Missionaries we sent among them, is a sufficient Refutation of it. In the year 1745 Dr. Barclay, the Society's Missionary to the Mohawks, was obliged in Consequence of the French War, and Practices of Popish Emissaries, to abandon Fort Hunter. He had resided in that Mission 8 years only : during which Time the Iroquois were often engaged in War. This worthy Missionary had no Interpreter ; his Life was frequently in Danger ; besides numberless other Difficulties he had to struggle with. Yet his Congregation consisted at his Departure, of no less than 500 Indian Converts, of whom more than 80 were regular communicants ; which was more than Double the number he found there at his first coming. If so great a Progress could be made in christianising the Indians amidst so many Obstructions ; Reason will tell us that much greater Progress might be made in it at present, when those Embarrassments are removed.

It hath been further urged on this Subject—" That civilising a barbarous People should precede "any Attempt to christianise them; and before they can be made Christians they must first be made "reasonable Men."

This Objection tho plausible, and perhaps true in some Cases; yet will not hold good in the present Instance. There cannot indeed be much hope of succeeding in the Conversion of any People to Christianity, who are continually wandering from Place to Place; because in such Circumstances, they cannot enough attend, to the Instructions that are delivered. But the Case is far otherwise with the Iroquois. They are settled in Villages, where they reside the whole year, except in the Season of Hunting, which lasts but a few months; so that there is sufficient Time and Opportunity for Instruction.

Christianity is certainly most likely to spread among People who are civilised; because the Mind is thereby prepared in some Measure to submit to its precepts. But to conclude from thence, that a barbarous People cannot be brought over to Christianity, would be a very wrong Inference. The many Converts already made by the English and French, among the Savage Tribes of North America, as I said before, are a Demonstration of the contrary, to omit other Instances. On the other Hand, I will not hesitate to affirm, that one of the most effectual Methods to civilise a barbarous People, is to inculcate Principles of Religion among them; provided they reside long enough in one Place to attend, and are willing to hear them. This was hinted at before, and as it is a Point of some Consequence, should be elucidated a little farther.

An ignorant, Savage People, accustomed to a Life free from Care or Restraint, and possessed of an high Sense of Liberty, cannot without the utmost Difficulty be brought to submit to Labour or the Controll of Laws. The Pleasure or Benefits resulting from Knowledge, Arts or refined Manners, have no Charms for them. They are outweighed by their Love of Liberty and Ease, which they hold in much greater Estimation. This hath been true of rude, uncivilised Nations in every part of the World; and hence we find that Legislators in general, when attempting to civilise barbarous People, did not content themselves with merely displaying the temporal Advantages arising from a civilised State. Sensible that some Motives more powerful were necessary to counteract inveterate Habits and Prejudices, they called in Religion to their aid. Accordingly they availed themselves of the Belief of a Supream Being, which they found People everywhere possessed of, and made it subservient to their Purpose. The first Thing they did was to confirm this Belief, institute a Ceremonial of Religious Worship, and inculcate the Doctrine of a future Life. This Expedient had the desired Effect; and accomplished what had been otherwise attempted in vain. To this Purpose we have the Testimony of some of the most judicious Writers of Antiquity, that the Eleusinian Mysteries (in which were probably taught the Belief of a Supream Being, a Providence and future Life, with the Necessity of a Rectitude of Moral Conduct) contributed more than any other Means to soften the Savage Manners of the first Inhabitants of Europe.

These Particulars are Pertinent to the Point under Consideration. These shew the Judgment and Practice of the wisest Men to have been contrary to what is suggested in this Objection; and Experience evinced that they judged right. We may reasonably conclude, that the same Measures ought to be persued in similar Circumstances now, as well as formerly, and that they will be attended with similar effects; consequently, that we should introduce Religion among the Iroquois in order to civilise them.

The Iroquois, and other Indian Tribes of North America, believe in a God, in a Providence and future State of Existence, and what is very remarkable, even those who have yet had no Tincture of Christianity, discover the most reverential Awe of the Supream Being, and pay uncommon Defference to the Ministers of Religion. They are hereby prepared in some Degree for receiving the Truths of Christianity, which will naturally dispose them to Change their Manners, and admit the Arts of civil Life; and they would certainly Spurn at any Proposal for introducing the latter without the former. My opinion therefore is that our Endeavours to civilise the Iroquois, and Convert them to Christianity, should be joined together, as is specified in the preceding Plan. They will mutually promote and assist each other; and thus the End in View will be more speedily and effectually accomplished.

I said before "that good Policy required the Crown should be principally concerned in this Business." My Reasons were such as I am persuaded your Lordship will approve. It has been the Opinion of Government, and what our Proceedings, relative to the Indians, are at present regulated by. That all Transactions with them should pass thro' one Channel, and be carried on in the Name of the Crown. This was wisely judged; being the best Expedient to unite them in the common Cause, and prevent the ill Consequences of leaving them to be practised on by such as might have Interests or Views of any Kind, inconsistent with those of the State. On this Principle, the present Plan has a peculiar claim to his Majesty's Patronage. The Indians should be taught to look up to Him as their common Father and Protector. Nothing would have a greater Tendency to attach them to His Person or Government, than his contributing a Part of His Royal Bounty to support a Scheme calculated to procure their present and future Happiness. They would consider it as the greatest Mark of his Friendship and Regard for them. Be assured that even those Indians who have not yet been Christianised, would view it in this Point of Light. His Majesty's Authority, besides, would give Weight to the Design, and promote its Success; and therefore His Royal Patronage of a Plan, by which these important Ends are to be answered would be highly proper.

Another Circumstance which is worthy of particular Notice on this Head is, That the Indians discover a much greater Inclination to be Instructed in the Principles of Christianity by Clergymen of the Church of England, than by dissenting Ministers. The Solemnity of our Worship is more pleasing to them. The Savages are incapable of entering into the spirit of our Religious Disputes and Divisions, or of forming a Proper Judgment concerning them. As we are all under one King and worship one God, they think we ought to have but one Religion; and they suppose that which is professed by the King is best. Hence proceeds the dislike shewn by the Indians to some dissenting Teachers who have lately attempted their Conversion; for on hearing their Religion was not the same with the King's they were much disgusted. Besides, the gloomy Cast of those Teachers, and their Mode of Worship, are forbidding and disagreable to the Indians. But the present Plan, which proposes that they should be proselyted by Clergymen of the National Church, would be clear of those Embarrassments; and as Supreme Head of the Church of England, it should be carried on in his Majesty's Name. Or even supposing that the Dissenters should at least prove successful in their endeavours among the Indians; yet it deserves serious Consideration, whether it would not be more eligible and safe that the Iroquois were Converted to the National Faith, and in such a Manner, as would indubitably secure their Fidelity to the Crown. I shall not enlarge on so delicate a Point. Your Lordship can reflect on this Hint.

I have now gone through what I proposed on this Subject, and have studied Brevity as far as was consistent with Perspicuity. I shall not trespass farther on your Lordship's Patience than to observe—That every Motive of Humanity and good Policy—of Regard to our Safety and Welfare, loudly calls for some vigorous Measures with Respect to the Iroquois, to secure their Friendship, prevent their Seduction by Roman Catholics, and guard against the Evils that may be thence apprehended, as well as those we may surely expect from their Continuance in their present savage State. The Method to effect all this, I have taken the Liberty to point out. The Expence attending it is trivial when compared with the Advantages we shall certainly reap from it; about £500 Sterl. a year being sufficient for the Purpose; and it is more than probable there never will be again such a Concurrence of Circumstances, as at present, to favour a Design of this Kind. I shall only add; that Nothing would reflect greater Lustre on, or be more worthy of, our present gracious Sovereign, who is Himself an illustrious Example of every Virtue, than to deliver those poor Savages from their present wretched State of Darkness, Error and Barbarity, and diffuse the Blessings of Religion and social Life among them; thereby securing many Benefits to the Comunity, particularly to His Subjects in this Part of the World, who have in numberless Instances already experienced the Effects of His Royal Munificence and Paternal goodness.

The whole is submitted, with all Defference, to your Lordships Judgement and Wisdom.

New-York, *Octob.* 1, 1771.

in fact says that the said James did not on the first day of December pay to the said Sir William Johnson the said Sum of One Hundred & Sixteen pounds seven Shillings and three pence halfpenny which upon that day he ought to have paid him According to the form & Effect of the said Bill whereby an Action hath Acrued to the said Sir William Johnson to demand & have of the said James the said sum of Two Hundred And thirty two pounds fourteen Shillings & seven pence. Nevertheless the said James Davis altho often required &c hath not paid the said sum of Two Hundred & thirty two Pounds fourteen Shillins & seven pence to the said Sir William Johnson but hitherto hath Refused & Still doth refuse to pay the same to the Damage of the said Sir William Johnson fifty Pounds & thereof he brings this Suit &c

SILVESTER for Plt.
D. DAVIS for Deft.
} pledges &c

County of Tryon ss. Sir William Johnson Bart. puts in his place Peter Silvester his Attorney against James Davis otherwise Called James Davis of Johnstown in the County of Tryon & Province of New York Hatter in a Plea of Debt &c

INDORSED:

Tryon Court of Common Pleas
The Honble Sir William Johnson Bart.— } Dr. Narr
vs
James Davis } Penal Bill
Silvester Atty.
to be fyled
Filed 21 Jany. 1773.

CASE OF MOHAWKS AND CANAJOHARIES

D. S.

[—————— *1772*]

[ ]
appropriate to its Use one thousand Acres of [ ]
Many Years after the Corporation employed [ ]
who Obtained a Deed from some of them, which [ ]
of these Lands, when the Indians Shou'd cease to be as [ ] paid no Consideration. but the Indians always [ ] no more was understood, meant, or intended by them [ ] under the Protection of a body of People whom they appreh[ended were] willing to defend this interesting part of their Property from the [ ] of any of the Neighbours, or the indiscretion of any of their own [ ]

That the Indians did afterwards Convey some part of [ ] to some persons whom they have always permitted to hold the same, but that the Corporation intimidated these People, and obliged some to enter into Articles to pay them Rent.

That *Aria*, a Mohawk Chief who had executed the [Deed to] the Corporation was repeatedly blamed by all the rest of the Indians, & threatened so soon as they heard that it had a different Construction, and [ ] operate to the giving a Reversion to the Corporation which induced him to [ ] matter before Gov^{r}. Cosby at Albany who disapproved of the same, [ ] calling for the Deed, gave it to *Aria*, who threw it into the fire.

That some of the former Mayors, and several of the Corporation declared that they did not intend to avail themselves of that Deed, th[at] they did not afterwards demand Rent from, or eject those Persons settled th[ere] in consequence of which, the Indians wou'd have rested thorougly content and Satisfyed, had they not lately been told by Several of their Neighbours [that] the Corporation wou'd compell those living upon these Lands to pay them R[ent] and would take Measures to get it all into their Possession. this brought [to] the recollection of the Mohawks the treatment of the Scorticoke Indians, [whose] lowlands were claimed by the Corporation under a similar Title, and who were [ ] [[1]] [ ] of the Corporation and Inhabitants of Albany [ ] with the most reasonable Purchases, and with whom they [ ], much in favor of that City. they are still willing to hope [ ] coud produce Such a Title, as might appear in their favor at Co[ ] for the Consideration before mentioned, an Advantage woud not [ ] [ ]ance of their Ancestors in a matter of so little value to the Corporation [but] So Interesting to them. That therefore they expect both in reason, and [ ] small Remains of their Property, (the lands they Occupy round their villages [ ).]ned to them, and to their latest Posterity, with liberty in case hereafter they [ ] Country, or become reduced as a People to dispose of Same, giving a Preference to the Corporation of Albany, and they trust that this their reasonable Request will meet with the favor, and Countenance of Government.

Case of the Mohawks of Conajohare respecting the Lands around their Village

The Conajohares consider themselves as within the Same Predicament as the Mohawks with regard to the large Sales they formerly made for very Slender Considerations and to the mere trifle of Property remaining in their hands.

They acknowledge that they sold above forty Years ago a Tract of land to Mess^{rs}. Livingston, and Van Horne, but they positively deney that they ever Sold any of the upper part that was claimed under the Patent, those Persons afterwards obtained. besides the Absurdity of the Supposition that they shou'd sell the very Planting Grounds, and Village they lived

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[1] Several lines burned off.

on, at a time when they were much more numerous then they are at present. There are very Strong proofs to the contrary appearing on Sundry Examinations, as well as at a Trial at Bar in 1763 that the survey [ ]
[[1]]

That the present Claimants and [ ] believe of the Premisses, did afterwards agree to [ ] part, which was perfected by all present except a certain [ ] Some Man, who has often created much uneasiness in [ ] Still continues to refuse to execute the Same, and has [ ] Part thereof, alledging as a reason, "that he had been well ["] which the Indians can give no Credit. That although [ ] are willing to Judge honorably of the Intention of the present Proprietors [ ] Yet they cannot help being greatly alarmed at the Conduct of Klock [ ] that a Discontent arising therefrom, may operate on the rest of [ ] same Effect as is Set forth in the Case of the Mohawks. [ ] their fidelity, and Attachment to the English intitles them to strict Just[ice] Protection of Government, & that for the Considerations before mentioned their [ ] Slender Remains of their Property, is reasonable, and their Desire moderate.

They therefore request that Klock may be compelled to [ ] the Release and that M^r^. Burnet Brown who was then absent may [ ] the same according to his Promise, or that such other Measures may be [taken] for their Relief, as may secure these Lands to them their Heirs, or Assigns for ever.

Pro Sir William Johnson
G JOHNSON D Agent
for Ind^n^. Affairs

INDORSED:

[ ] Mohawk Indians
[ ] ing the lands around their
Village — 1772

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[1] Several lines burned off.

ADDRESSED:

To
The hon^{ble}. S^{r}. William
Johnson Bar^{t}.
Johnson Hall.

INDORSED:[1]

[ ] 1772

[ ] W. Yates letter
wth. an Inclosure useless

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON'S BOND

Df.

[*Feb^{y} 15th. 1772*]

Know all Men by these Presents
That I William Johnson Barn^{t} &c.

. . . . am held and firmly bound unto John Lamb of the City of New York in the Sum of Seven hundred and twenty four Pounds Current Money of New York to be paid to the said John Lamb or to his certain Attorney, Executors, Administrators, or Assigns; To which Payment well and truly to be made I do bind myself my Heirs, Executors, Administrators, and every of them Firmly by these Presents, Sealed with my Seal; Dated the fifteenth Day of February in the Year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and Seventy two and in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third — by the Grace of God King of Great Britain France and Ireland &c.

The condition of this Obligation is such, that if the above bounden William Johnson his Heirs, Executors, Administrators, or any of them, shall and do well and truly pay or cause to be paid, unto the above named John Lamb or to his certain

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[1] In Johnson's hand.

Attorney, Executors, Administrators, or Assigns; the Just and full Sum of Three hundred and Sixty two Pounds Current Money aforesaid, on or before the fifteenth Day of February next ensuing the Date of these Presents without any Fraud, or other Delay; then this Obligation to be void, or else, to remain in full Force and Virtue

Sealed and delivered
in the presence of

INDORSED:

S^{r}. W. Johnson's Bond
to for
John Lamb. £362

TO THOMAS GAGE

Df.[1]

Johnson hall Feb^{y}. 15th. 1772.

DEAR SIR,

The Albany Post has been so very Irregular & tardy of Late, That Letters neither come here or go down the Country as formerly. Your favor of the 20th Ult^{o}. did not reach this till the 10th Inst. and altho' I keep a Man on purpose to carry Letters to & from Albany I am at a Loss when this may arrive at N York.

Since my Last, the Messengers arrived from the Southward Via Philadelphia. After the Usual Ceremonies They laid down their sev^{l}. Belts, Pipes &c to a great number, After which they told me a very disagreable Circumstance namely That Annawacka who after the death of Tho^{s}. King was the man of the best Abilities in these Matters died on Shipboard, So that the Accot given by the rest, tho' it takes up Three Sheets of paper is far from being so Consistent as I might otherwise have

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[1] In handwriting of Guy Johnson; missing sections supplied from manuscript letter dated Feb. 18th. in William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Expected. One is Still behind laid up with a Lameness who is more intelligent, him I expect to see Soon, however I shall give you the Sum of what they Report.—

They First Repeated the proceedings of Thos. King with the Shawanese &c at Fort Pitt on their way to the Southward, some part of which you may recollect we formerly recd. however they enlarged much on the promises Made by the Wawiaghtonos, and on the Sorrow they Expressed for what is past, & that they would Send Depys to the Six Nats. & from thence to me, to Sollicit our friendship & a Continuance of peace. This (they say) was delivered by the Shawanese who were Come from Wawiaghtonon to Thos. King, and they gave me a Calumet Feather &c from them as also some belts & bunches from the Delawares to that Effect.—

When they arrived at Scioto Thos. King addressed each of the Nations Assembled, beginning with the Shawanese whom he upbraided for retiring down so far, & for Confederating with people who disregarded peace, & in Short repeated to each of them faithfully what had been given him in Charge by the Inds. & by myself,— The Shawanese answered That The Six Nats. had long Seemed to neglect them, & to disregard the Promise they [formerly made] of letting them Have the Lands between the Ohio & the Lakes [, that in] their distress they went into their Canoes & were determined to go where they shod Carry them, but were stopped at Scioto by the Six Nations who shook them by the heads, and desired them to Stay there & be in peace with the English, but that to their great surprise, they soon after Saw the 6 Nations In Arms Coasting along the Lakes with the English, and that after peacee was Settled. The Six Nations Continued [to] act like Enemys to them, That they the Shawanese, sent thereupon se[veral] Belts to the 6 Nations, for their closer union, but that Gaustarax the Seneca Chief to whom they were delivered did not make them public so that they never recd. any answer to them, They then produced some Emblems [and] belts representg themselves & the Illinois Inds. with 10 Confederate Nations between them.— They then delivered a belt from the Chickesaws who professed an Inclination to be directed by the Six Nations in w^{t}. ever regarded peace.— The 6 Nation Depy^{s}. then Accused them of insincerity, misrepresentation & evil Conduct on which they enlarged a great deal, Concluding with telling all present that they were come to bring them to their Senses. To strengthen the Union of those who were friends to the English Alliance, And for that purpose opened a Road from thence to the Council Fire at Onondaga, & that at my House, That those who chose to be happy might cast their eyes that way, & make use of it, but that the First Nation that sho^{d}. obstruct the same must meet with the resentment of the rest;— The Sev^{l}. Nations present then spoke on many belts Separately, each giving many assurances of their pacific resolutions, & promising faithfully to observe what was recommended to them.—

The Cherokees desired that many Thanks might be given to the Six Nat^{s}. and to me, and the same was repeated at all the Villages they passed thro' for the peace secured thro' my Mediation, by which they began once more to enjoy themselves,— At Gohi the Chief of the Creeks met them with many Compliments & Salutations, & was desirous they would Visit his Nation, But was answered that as a Road was now opened, for all who had a mind to apply to me, or to the 6 Nat^{n}. Confederacy in person, and as another Meeting at the desire of So many would Shortly take place, it was unnecess^{y}.— The Chief of the Creeks thanked them & said he was certain that some of his Nation w^{d}. Accomp^{y} the Cherokees to the Ond^{a}. Council Fire & to my house, and then after sev^{l}. Less Material Conferences the Dep^{s}. proceeded, the Cherokees taking Leave of them & the Catawbas escorting them to Charles Town —

This is a brief detail of the Relation of Nickaroondase's one of the principal Survivors from whence I have good reason to conclude that the Shawanese who grasped at the Lands on both sides of the Ohio, repenting of the Sale of the South Side, had sent belts to their Next Neighbours the Senecas to stir up the

Chat^s. to disavow their act & to Joyn in dispossessing the English thereof, That this was approved of by Gaustarax & his People, but disapproved of by the rest of the Confederacy so that he was necessitated to try to set up others which gave rise to the Acc^t. of the Senecas Plot & Gaustarax's belts, and the particulars of which the foregoing is only heads, together with the Conversations I have had with the Young Chiefs, are a farther corroboration thereof.—The Ind^s. are Extremely Inquisitive to know the particulars, & every day since the return of the Dep^{ys} there have been parties here to enquire concerning the same.

It is now upwards of a Month since the 6 Nat^n. Dep^{ys} (who were sent to the Southward agreable to my Letter of Nov^r. 16th) left Karaghiyadisha, one of the last Seneca Towns near Ohio on their Way to the Shawanese Town, where they were to take the belts and Hatchet, from the Wawiaghtonos &c and deliver them their last Words, as they said, after which sho^d. they continue obstinate, they were to Expect no favor. They had orders to make great Expedition but as some Chiefs are coming from the 6 Nat^s. who are daily Expected here, I shall then let you know what they say, so that measures may be taken as the Case shall appear to require.

His Excell^{cy} LIEUT GEN^L. GAGE.

INDORSED:

Feb^y 15th. 1772—

To Lieut Gen^l. Gage
with the Heads of the proceed^s. of
Tho^s. King & the Embassy to the
Southward.—

TO WILLIAM GAMBLE

Df[1]

Johnson [*Hall February 16, 1772*]

SIR,

A few days ago I was favored with your [ ] the Subject of the Division of Albany County, and [ ] of the new one,— Upon this occasion I wish it was in my [ ] to Satisfy your Wishes, and Gratify myself by telling you [ ] you should enjoy that Office, but Besides that [ ] rely on report, and cannot consistently determine with regard [to] offices, whilst the Main points are as yet unsettled There is another Circumstance, which has obliged me to discourage the same Application from other Gentlemen whom I likewise esteem Namely, That it is a Thing expected by the principal Inhabitants & deemed highly reasonable by others that such Offices should be occupied by persons living, or having property within these Limits, Your own Judgment will shew you that this is not an unreasonable expectation of theirs, and your friendship prevent you from desiring that I sho^{d}. disappoint them. I must nevertheless regret that I have no better Title to your Gratefull Expressions, & That I can only assure you at present of the unalterable goodwishes with which I am

Your real friend & Servant,

M^{R}. W^{M}. GAMBLE

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[1] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

Kanonwarohare Febry. 24th 1772—

delivered the following speech to the Chiefs of Oneide Tribe in the Name of Mr Avery—

My Brethn & Children, give attention while I speak a few words: What I now design is only to remind you of the encourage-ment you gave Dr Wheelock last fall, of a more full answer (this winter or spring ensuing) to his message here by me— You must now think, as the spring approaches, your great Fathers Eyes are turned this way & his Ears in expectation of a voice from the wilderness — Therefore I shall no more, only desire you will take no offence, that a Lad should ~~take~~ upon him to awaken ye Attention ~~& spirit~~ the Memorys of great Men (or Lords as you are called) to their own Business & engagements—

I mean well, my Brn & Childn— may the Father of lights direct you into ye right way—

This is all I have to say—

N.B. The above Speech was well recd— & an answer promised as soon as possible— —

March 3d 1772— The Indians assembled at my house, when the following Speech was delivered in ye Names of the Head Men & Warrrs both of this Town told Moideby —

Tagawaron Speaker —

Father attend —

Open Yours Ears to hear for our Father the great minister, who is at a great distance from us & in the woods, as well as we.

Father, attend, while we address you in his person —

Father, we understood by your Speech last fall that you still love us & pray constantly for your Children, ~~of~~ the Oneides —

We thank You — all our thank heartily — & upon this head, we ask that You continue to love & pray for us — as We have begun, a little in earnest to pray for ourselves.

Fa: You requested of us the Reasons of our taking away our children from your School, — Why we have not returned them, & whether we intend they shall ever return. —

Fa: The two first — we judge sufficiently answered in our speech last fall, & one made to our Father who resides among us long ago —

What remains, is this, Do you intend to send back your Child^n to my School? —

Fa: possess your Mind in peace, dont let us give You any uneasiness, in what we shall say on this head

We do not consent to your proposal, of our child^n returng to you -- we rather choose to make farther trial of them under our own Eye that we may observe their Conduct - they be under our constant watch, & subject to our daily correction, when they misbehave -

Father, Possess your Mind in peace -

You remember what we said when we took away our children first - what reasons we gave to our Father resid^g among us, - what we said last fall - all these things, Father, you perfectly know - therefore we say - Father possess your Mind in peace -

Father - you may think our children are under instruction - our present Indian School master (Wiendice) for this town, is one of your scholars - taught by you - ~~embibed~~ your Sentiments & practices of Relig^n - Therefore we may say, we ~~have~~, as it were, hear your Voice have your instructions, & service in our School -

Father, You have now heard our whole minds - we are resolved to continue in the same opinion & practice

once more - we have all carefully considered ye import impress ~~of ye~~ of your Message - every person has spoken for himself therefore you will rec^v wt has been said, not ~~merely~~ merely as ye result of ye Council but ye Voice of ye whole town. -

The Sachems Speech
to Dr. Wheelock
March 2d 1772 –

N York March 2d 1772.
At Night.—

My dear Sir Wm,

The Corporation of Albany have sent down Mr Yates & one of their Aldermen to shew cause against the Mohock Bill. the Consideration of this matter is to be taken up by the House to morrow morning, and the Fate of it will be I believe that either the Bill is rejected, or postponed to another Seſsion All the Members being against giving encouragement to any bill that appears to be controversial, about Lands.

I have at length asked Leave of Absence of the House & shall set out on Sunday, by Water I believe, as far as Peaks Kill, the Roads being almost impaſsable between this & the Highlands, we shall hire a W. India Schooner.

The Governor has recd the Kings Orders to grant no more Lands

J

I believe I wrote you so before, but am not sure: At my return I shall tell you what I attribute it to, with Many other matters which must be deferred till I have the pleasure of seeing You; as this will I hope be in a few days, I shall only at present assure you that I am with Cordial regard, & best Wishes for you,

My dear Sr. Wm Your most sincere & Affectionate

G Johnston

Kind Compts. to all Friends.

N York March 2d 1773

(Guy [illegible])
Col. Johnsons letter
recd 8th at 9 at Night

Kanonwarohare Febry. 21th 1772 —
deliverd the following speech to the Chiefs of Onoide Tribe
in the Name of Mr Avery —

My Brethn & Children give attention while I speak a few words
What I now designs is only to remind You of the encouragement you gave Dr Wheelock last fall, of a more full answer (this winter or spring ensuing) to his message here by me —
You must now think, as the spring approaches, your great Fathers Eyes are turned this way & his Ears in expectation of a voice from the wilderness — Therefore I shall no more only desire you will take no offence, that a Lad should ~~talk~~ upon him to awaken y attention & ~~spirits~~ the memorys of great Men (or Lords as you are called) to their own Business & engagements —
I mean Well, my Br. & Chiln — may the Father of lights direct you into y right way —
This is all I have to say —

N.B. The above Speech was well recd — & an answer promissed as soon as possible — —
March 3d 1772 — The Indians assembled at my house, when the following Speech was deliverd in y Names of the Head Men & Warrrs both of this Town & old Onoide by —

Tagawaron Speaker —

Father attend —

Open Yours Ears to hear for our Father the great minister, who is at a great distance from us & in the woods, as well as we.

Father attend, while we address you in his person —

Father, we understood by your Speech last fall that you still love us & pray constantly for your children, ~~of~~ the Oneides —

We thank You — all of us thank heartily — & upon this head, we ask that You continue to love & pray for us — as We have begun a little in earnest to pray for ourselves.

Fa: You requested of us the Reasons of our taking away our children from your School, — Why we have not returned them, & whether we intend they shall ever return. —

Fa: The two first — we judge sufficiently answered in our speech last fall, & one made to our Father who resides among us long ago —

What remains, is this, Do you intend to send back your Child^n to my School? —

Fa: possess your Mind in peace, dont let us give You any uneasiness, in what we shall say on this head

We do not consent to your proposal, of our childn returng to you — we rather choose to make farther trial of them under our own Eye that we may observe their Conduct — they be under our constant watch, & subject to our daily correction, when they misbehave —

Father, Possess your mind in peace —

You remember what we said when we took away our children first — what reasons we gave to our Father resid^g among us, — what we said last fall — all these things, Father, you perfectly know — therefore we say — Father possess your Mind in peace —

Father — you may think our children are under instruction — our present Indian School master (Mundius) for this town, is one of your scholars — taught by you — ~~embibed~~ your Sentiments & practice of Relig^n. — Therefore we may say, we ~~have~~, as it were, hear your Voice have your instructions, & service in our School —

Father, You have now heard our whole minds — we are resolved to continue in the same opinion & practi

Once more — we have all carefully considered y^e import ~~of y^r message~~ of your Message — every person has spoken for himself therefore you will rec^d w^t has been said, not merely as y^e result of y^e Council but y^e voice of y^e whole town. —

The Sachems Speech
to Dr. Wheelock
March 2d 1772 –

LORD HILLSBOROUGH TO LORD Wm. CAMPBELL.

Whitehall January 11th. 1772.

My Lord

I have received your Lordships Letter of the 18th of October 1771, & have laid it before the King, & have only to add, that it will be very agreeable to me if your Lordships choice of Mr. Cunningham to be Commissary for Indian Affairs in Nova Scotia shall be confirmed by Sir William Johnson, within whose Department it lyes to appoint to that office.

I am My Lord
Your Lordships
Most obedient
Humble Servant
Hillsborough.

Lord William Campbell.

SIR Wm JOHNSON TO LORD HILLSBOROUGH.

Johnson hall April 4th. 1772

My Lord,

I was lately honored with your Lordships Letter No. 17. in answer to mine No. 16. since which I took the Liberty of addressing you by a few lines on a more private Subject; From that time I waited with much Impatience for the return of Thos King the Indn Chief, who with others went as Deprs to the great Congress at Scioto, as I mentioned in my last Letter, but in October to my great Concern I received the disagreable news that Thos King died at Charles-Town S. Carolina after having discharged the Embassy committed to him This I considered as I still do, as a sensible disappointment because the fidelity of that Chief, Joyned to his Superior Capacity gave me good hopes of receiving a Circumstantial Accot of all Matters at his return, which I could not Expect so perfect from the rest of his party;—After waiting Some Months More, I found that his party who had taken shipping at Chas Town were Landed at Philadelphia, and in Feby the Greatest part of them with many others came to my House, here I found that Anawaske, the Next in Authority to Thos King had died on shipboard and that another was so Afflicted with a lameness that he could not as yet make me a Visit. I was therefore obliged to Content myself with such Accot. as the Young Men who survived could give, who after laying before me a Considerable Number of Pipes, belts &ca began to repeat the proceedings of Thos King, first with the Shawanese at Fort Pitt on his way to Scioto, where these people assured him that the *Wawiaghtonos*, wd shortly send Deprs to the 6 Nats & myself to sollicit a Continuance of Friendship. They next recounted that upon Thos Kings arrival at Scioto he assembled all the Nations, and first addressed the Shawanese whom he upbraided for retiring so far down the Ohio, & for Confederating with people unmindfull of their Engagements, and in short repeated to each of the Nations faithfully all that he had been charged with by the 6 Nats. & myself.—The Shawanese answered That the 6 Nations had long seemed to neglect them, & to disregard the Promise they formerly made of giving them the Lands between the Ohio & the Lakes: That thus distressed they went on board of their Canoes determined to go whither soever fortune shod drive them, but were Stopped (many Years since) at Scioto by the 6. Nations who shook them by the heads & fixed them there charging them to live in peace with the English, but that to their great surprise they soon after saw the 6. Nations In

Arms & Coasting along the Lakes with the English, [i e assisting us & acting offensively last war,] That when the War ended the ill treatment of the 6 Nations increased, to whom thereupon they sent Belts, to Strengthen their Union but that they supposed Agastarax the Seneca Chief who recd them did not make them public, for that they never recd any Answer thereto; The Shawanese & the rest then shewed some Emblematical belts representing themselves & the Ilinois Indians with 10 Confederate Nations between them, they also delivered a belt from the Chickesaws who promised to be guided by the 6 Nations. Thos King then after accusing them of Misrepresentation Ansd them by a full detail of all their hostile Acts, as also of those of the Powtewatamis, Kickapows &ca Concluding with telling them that He & the other Depys were come to restore them to their senses & strengthen the Union of those who affected the English Alliance by opening a Road to the Council Fire at Onondaga, & from thence to my House for the use of those who chose to live at peace & be happy, but that the first Nation that shod obstruct the same or look another way wd assuredly be punished by the rest. To this they made reply on sevl belts &ca excusing themselves on various pretences, ending with strong assurances of their pacific intentions & promising faithfully to abide by all that was recommended to them & forth with to bring all their Confederate into the same Sentiments. The Cherokees particularly Thanked the 6 Nats. & myself, for the peace they had obtained in 1768. whereby they began once more to enjoy themselves, And the Chief of the Creeks who met them at Gohi, Expressed much satisfaction at seeing the Deps promised to make use of the Road they had opened & to adhere stedfastly to his engagements. After this & many other matters, The Catawbas escorted the Deps to Charles Town, where Thos King died, & the rest proceeded as before mentioned. This, My Lord is a brief Summary of the report made to me by Nickaroondase the principal Survivor, the 2 Chiefs being dead, & one of the principal Men yet behind from which & some farther Conversations I have held with the Depys who returned It appears to me that the Shawanese who to my knowledge Grasped at the Lands on both sides of the Ohio, tho' at the late conference they only mention the North side repenting of the Sale of the Lands on the South of that River had sent belts to the Senecas to Stir up the 6 Nations to disavow their own act, propogating at the same time reports which might tend to alieniate us from the latter; That Agaustarax & his Tribe approved of this, but that the rest of the Confederacy would not give ear to it, is evident from the Speech made to the Depys at Scioto, that thereupon Agastarax Sent belts to the other Nations to set them up, which gave rise to the Story of the Seneca Plot & the belts sent by Agastarax a little before his death. These belts I am assured will be speedily delivered those who promised to see the same performed only waiting the return of the Deps. from the southward, I have also recd Notice that another Genl. meeting is appointed to be held at Scioto, which the Inds in that Quarter declare to be intended to Communicate the Sentiments of the 6 Nats. to those who were not present at the last Conference, & to take measures in consequence of their engagements, however I have already taken care that those who go from the Northwd in consequence of their Summons are more to be depended on, & I shall have a strict eye over their proceedings.

I ought to remark that as amst other fallacious pretences the Shawnese have spoke of the Sale to the Crown extending to Ohio, that it is not of that part which for the sevl reasons I formerly gave I ventured to Continue from Kanhawa to the Cherokee River, but their pretended objection is to the part above Kanhawa, to which I was directed to purchase by his Majestys Orders & indeed no other part could Affect them; but even this is a Weak pretence, for the North side of the River which they still occupy is more than they have any Title to, having been often moved from place to place by the Six Nations, and never having any right of Soil there, so that the admitting of any part of their Title as Just, wd introduce a variety of other Claims as weakly founded which wd create a Genl confusion in the Colonies.—I considered the Defection of the Kickapous & Potewatamis under the Genl denomination of their Confederacy of whose fidelity I have but a slender opinion; Their Murders & Robberies are however much owing to the Jealousy of French Traders, & to that lawless Colony of that nation on the Wabache, who are daily increasing in numbers, & whilst they particularly hate us as English, are really enemies to all Governm^t These men sho^d If possible be removed, but possessing the esteem of the neighbour^g Indians and acquiring a Confidence from their remote Situation; I believe it will be a very difficult task to affect it completely, or in a proper manner. I understand that Gen^l Gage has this in View, and your Lordship may be assured that I shall most chearfully Obey his Majesties Orders by Cooperating with Gen^l Gage in this or any other measure which the Kings service may require.

The Complaints made daily by the Ind^s of the Abuses and Irregularity of Trade are many & Greivous & will doubtless be made use of by them in case of a defection in any Quarter, The Injuries which our own Traders sustain to the South Westward thro' the Superior Influence & Artifices of the French, who engross the Comerce of that Country is likewise worthy serious attention, for all which there appears no prospect of remedy, as the Commiss^{rs} did not meet last Dec^r as was expected, neither according to the best accot^s that I have is there any likelyhood that they will do so, or if met that any thing effectual will be agreed to from the different Interests, & Systems of policy prevailing in each Colony which must ever prove an obstruct^n to establishments that depend on a perfect union of Sentiments & on proportional Quota's of Expense, I am persuaded that such Negligence in a matter of Gen^l Concern could not have been foreseen by Governm^t And I am happy to find that my sentiments correspond with those of your Lordship in the Necessity there is for a redress of such Grievances as must endanger the public Tranquility.—I never Covetted, neither shall I ever wish for Authority, but where the public Service requires it, to reach abuses that may not otherwise be easily removed & The attention which the pres^t duties of my office requires w^d rather Incline me to Wish that these Important points could be effected in any other Channell, of which I Express my doubts with real concern.

The Event of the Public Negociations in wch the Ind^s propose to be Occupied the ensuing Season, are for many reasons as yet extremely doubtfull, they require to be strickly enquired into & I shall give them my whole attention, Highly encouraged by the favorable Sentiments with which y^r Lordship has honored my proceedings, I cannot sufficiently express my Gratitude upon that occasion; but by a perseverance in my attention to his Majestys Interests & those Duties wch have procured me so flatter^g a distinction.

I am also much obliged to your Lordship for the Confirmation of the most agreeable news of the Recovery of his Roy^l Highness the D. of Gloucester, an Event which so nearly regards his Majesties domestic felicity, & which is so interesting to every faithfull Subject affords me the most sensible Satisfaction.

I have the honor to be,
My Lord &c^a

The Right Honble
The Earl of Hillsborough.

good white pine trees and some red oak timber; has marked some trees on the skirts of each patch of pines with No. 1, 2 etc. and with the broad arrow that they may be easily found in order to be surveyed according to His Majesty's orders and instructions; being short of provisions, were obliged to repair to their headquarters Fort Halifax, but did not prevent their executing my orders beyond my most sanguine expectations. After they crossed Great Androscoggin on their way to the fort they struck a branch of the river called Rapid Stream, on the north side of which they discovered a fine young growth of white pines. They crossed another branch called Willson's Stream on which they also discovered another good growth of pines. Little Norridgewalk Stream, which lies to the southward of Willson's Stream, is lined on each side with an exceeding good growth of white pine trees between four and five miles in length. Those pines I hear are intended soon to be cut and hauled to mills belonging to some of the Plymouth Proprietors. I am informed they stand many miles without their boundaries, therefore am of opinion they have no right to cut them down. In consequence of His Majesty's instructions to me I lay before your Excellency my discoveries that you may have time to enact such laws as you shall judge most effectual for the preservation of white pine trees and naval timber within your government.

I must further recommend to your notice that it will be an essential piece of service to His Majesty's interest to put a stop to the erection of any more saw-mills; the cause is evident; no man will erect a saw-mill but where the pines grow or as near as convenient to avoid suspicion, and certainly do and will avail themselves of every opportunity (from sinister views) to destroy so valuable a part of His Majesty's property.

My deputy seized upwards of one thousand logs on Great Androscoggin River. I am determined to prevent as far as lies in my power such pernicious practices and shall give positive orders to my deputies to seize all the logs, shingles and clapboards that have been cut and made from trees contrary to Act of Parliament.

Shingle and clapboard makers are equally destructive to the pines. Not content with cutting down pine trees fit for masts, they have chopped or scored into some hundreds to discover whether they will split free; if they possess not the requisite properties, they leave them and continue this illegal practice until they find some which will answer their purposes.

I shall thankfully acknowledge every hint your Excellency shall please to impart to me for the detection and bringing to justice such notorious offenders. I am in daily expectation of the arrival of two parties when I intend making a report of the parts we have inspected and lay them before you. Shall be proud of the honour of your answer [Vol. IV, No. 329ii] and to be informed what part of your government you wish to have explored next. *Copy.* [C.O.5/761, fo. 95]

XXII

Sir William Johnson to Earl of Hillsborough (*No. 17*)

4 April, Johnson Hall

My Lord, I was lately honoured with your lordship's letter No. 17 [Vol. III, No. CXXVII] in answer to mine No. 16, since which I took the liberty of addressing your lordship by a few lines on a more private subject. From that time I waited with much impatience for the return of Thomas King, the Indian chief who with others went as deputies to the great congress at Sioto as I mentioned in my last letter. But in October to my great concern I received the disagreeable news that Thomas King died at Charleston, South Carolina, after having discharged the embassy committed to him. This I considered, as I still do, as a sensible disappointment because the fidelity of that chief joined to his superior capacity gave me good hopes of receiving a circumstantial account of all matters at his return, which I could not expect so perfect from the rest of his party. After waiting some months more I found that his party who had taken shipping at Charleston were landed at Philadelphia, and in February the greatest part of them with many others came to my house. Here I found that Anawacka, the next in authority to Thomas King, had died on shipboard and that another was so afflicted with a lameness that he could not as yet make me a visit. I was therefore obliged to content myself with such accounts as the young men who survived could give, who after laying before me a considerable number of belts, calumets etc. began to repeat the proceedings of Thomas King, first with the Shawanese at Fort Pitt on his way to Sioto where these people assured him that the Wawiaghtanons would shortly send deputies to the Six Nations and myself to solicit a continuance of friendship. They next recounted that upon Thomas King's arrival at Sioto, he assembled all the nations in that quarter of the country and first addressed the Shawanese, whom he upbraided for retiring so far down the Ohio and for confederating with people unmindful of their engagements, and in short repeated to each of the nations faithfully all that he had been charged with by the Six Nations and myself. The Shawanese answered that the Six Nations had long seemed to neglect them and to disregard the promise they formerly made of giving them the lands between the Ohio and the Lakes, that thus distressed they went on board of their canoes determined to go whithersoever fortune should drive them, but were stopped (many years since) at Sioto by the Six Nations who shook them by the heads and fixed them there, charging them to live in peace with the English; but that to their great surprise they soon after saw the Six Nations in arms and coasting along the Lakes with the English (i.e. assisting us and acting offensively last war); that when the war was ended the ill-treatment of the Six Nations increased, to whom thereupon they sent belts to strengthen their union but that they supposed Augastarax, the Seneca chief who received them, did not make them public for that they never received any answer thereto. The Shawanese and the rest then showed some emblematical belts representing themselves and the Illinois Indians with ten confederate nations between them, they also delivered a belt from the Chickasaws who promised to be guided by the Six Nations.

Thomas King then after accusing them of misrepresentation answered them by a full detail of all their hostile acts, as also of those of the Poutewatamies, Kicapous etc. concluding with telling them that he and the other deputies were come to restore them to their senses and strengthen the union of those who affected the English alliance by opening a road to the council-fire at Onondaga and from thence to my house for the use of those who chose to live at peace and be happy, but that the first nation that should obstruct the same or look another way would assuredly be punished by the rest. To this they made reply on several belts etc. excusing themselves in various pretences, ending with strong assurances of their pacific intentions, and promising faithfully to abide by all that was recommended to them and forthwith to bring all their confederates into the same sentiments. The Cherokees particularly thanked the Six Nations and myself for the peace they had obtained in 1768 whereby they began once more to enjoy themselves. And the chief of the Creeks who met them at Gohi expressed much satisfaction at seeing the deputies, promised to make use of the road they had opened and to adhere steadfastly to his engagements. After this and many other matters the Catabaws escorted the deputies to Charleston where Thomas King died and the rest proceeded as before mentioned.

This, my lord, is a brief summary of the report made to me by Nicaroondase, the principal survivor, the two chiefs being dead and one of the principal men yet behind, from which and some farther conversations I have held with the deputies who returned, it appears to me that the Shawanese who to my knowledge grasped at the lands on both sides of the Ohio, though at the late conference they only mentioned the north side, repenting the sale of the lands on the south of that river, had sent belts to the Senecas to stir up the Six Nations to disavow their own act, propagating at the same time reports which might tend to alienate us from the latter. That Gaustarax and his tribe approved of this but that the rest of the confederacy would not give ear to it, is evident from the speech made to the deputies at Sioto; that thereupon Augastarax sent belts to the other nations to set them up which gave rise to the story of the Seneca plot and the belts sent by Augastarax a little before his death. These belts I am assured will be speedily delivered, those who promised to see the same performed only waiting the return of the deputies from the southward. I have also received notice that another general meeting is appointed to be held at Sioto, which the Indians in that quarter declare to be intended to communicate the sentiments of the Six Nations to those who were not present at the last conference and to take measures in consequence of their engagements. However, I have already taken care that those who go from the northward in consequence of their summons are men to be depended on and I shall have a strict eye over their proceedings.

I ought to remark that as amongst other fallacious pretences the Shawanese have spoke of the sale to the Crown extending to Ohio, that it is not of that part which for the several reasons I formerly gave I ventured to continue from Kanhawa to the Cherokee River; but this pretended objection is to the part above Kanhawa to which I was directed to purchase by His Majesty's orders, and indeed no other part could affect them, but even this is a weak pretence for the north side of the river which they still occupy is more than they have any title to, having been often moved from place to place by the Six Nations and never having any right of soil there, so that the admitting of any part of their title as just would introduce a variety of other claims as weakly founded which would create a general confusion in the colonies. I considered the defection of the Kicapous and

Poutawatamies etc. under the general denomination of their confederacy, of whose fidelity I have but a very slender opinion. Their murders and robberies are however much owing to the jealousy of French traders and to that lawless colony of that nation on the Waubache who are daily increasing in number, and whilst they particularly hate us as English are really enemies to all government. These men should if possible be removed, but possessing the esteem of the neighbouring Indians and acquiring a confidence from their connections and remote situation I believe it will be a very hard task to effect it completely or in a proper manner. I understand that General Gage has this in view and your lordship may be assured that I shall most cheerfully obey His Majesty's orders by co-operating with General Gage in this or any other measure which the King's service may require.

The complaints made daily by the Indians of the abuses and irregularities of trade are many and grievous and will doubtless be made use of by them in case of a defection in any quarter. The injuries which our own traders sustain to the south-westward through the superior influence and artifices of the French, who engross the commerce of that country, is likewise worthy serious attention, for all which there appears no prospect of remedy as the commissioners did not meet last December as was expected, neither according to the best accounts that I have is there any likelihood that they will do so, or if met that anything effectual will be agreed to from the different interests and systems of policy prevailing in each colony which must ever prove an obstruction to establishments that depend on a perfect union of sentiments and on proportional quotas of expense. I am persuaded that such negligence in a matter of general concern could not have been foreseen by government and I am happy to find that my sentiments correspond with those of your lordship in the necessity there is for a redress of such grievances as must endanger the public tranquillity.

I never coveted neither shall I ever wish for authority but where the public service requires it to reach abuses that may not otherwise be easily removed. The attention which the present duties of my office requires would rather incline me to wish that these important points could be effected in any other channel, of which I express my doubts with real concern.

The event of the public negotiations in which the Indians propose to be occupied the ensuing season are for many reasons as yet extremely doubtful. They require to be strictly enquired into, and I shall give them my whole attention, highly encouraged by the favourable sentiments with which your lordship has honoured my proceedings. I cannot sufficiently express my gratitude upon that occasion but by a perseverance in my attention to His Majesty's interests and to those duties which have procured me so flattering a distinction.

I am also much obliged to your lordship for the confirmation of the most agreeable news of the recovery of His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester. An event which so nearly regards His Majesty's domestic felicity and which is so interesting to every faithful subject affords me the most sensible satisfaction. *Signed.* [C.O.5/73, fo. 150] day take and subscribe before me, the several usual Oaths and Declarations, enjoined by Law, and did also take an Oath for the faithful execution of his said Office, as prescribed by the Act of the first of George the first.

LETTER GOV. PENN TO INDIANS, 1772.

Philadelphia, the 11th of April, 1772.

Brethren,

I received your Letter dated at Onohoquage, the 16th of last month, and am heartily sorry to hear of the disagreeable News you give me of the bad Behaviour of two of our People last Winter, at Cashictown, towards a Chief of our good Brethren the Six Nations.

Brethren,

You have acted a very wise and friendly part in acquainting me with the abuse your People have received from mine, and in not resenting the Injury yourselves, by taking immediate Revenge on the men who were so wicked as to commit it. This Conduct of yours deserves great praise, and discovers a very peaceable Disposition on your part. And it is agreeable to the Rule which you and we have at all the Treaties agreed to observe, in order to prevent the least Breach in our Chain of Friendship, which is, that whenever any little accident happens, or any folly is committed between any of your People and ours, we should immediately inform each other of what has been done, that satisfaction may be given to those who are injured.

Brethren,

You very well know that the men of whom you now complain, live at a very great Distance from me, and that it is difficult for me at all times to prevent such accidents, and to apprehend and punish the wicked people who occasion them. But, Brethren, you may be fully assured that every thing shall be done on my part to give you satisfaction in this matter. I shall send orders to the Magistrates in Northampton, to issue Warrants for the two persons who have injured you, and if they can be apprehended, to punish them as far as our Laws will allow.

RICHARD PENN.

Directed,

To Adam, Isaac, Peter and Captain John, and the other Indian Chiefs at Onohoquagey.

FROM DIRCK LEFFERTS

L. S.

New York 27 May 1772

SIR

I am with others concerned in a purchase of Lands to be made from the Mohawk Indians, having obtained Lycence for that purpose, and also have together with them appointed M^{r}. Thomas Palmer to treat with and make the said purchase when ever His Excellency the Governor shall attend at the Hall. I suppose my concern in said purchase will be about Twenty thousand Acres, and whatever that shall amount to at any sum not exceeding Four pounds Six Shillings p^{r}. Thousand, I have impowered M^{r} Palmer to draw on me for the amount; If therefore you will be pleased to accept his Bill on me for such sum, I will pay it on sight, and most gratefully acknowledge the favour.

I am very respectfully
Sir
Your much Obliged &
most Humble Servant.
DIRCK LEFFERTS

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar^{t}.

INDORSED:[1]

May 27th. 1772 —

Mr. Lefferts Letter —
⅌ M^{r}. Palmer —

FROM HUGH WALLACE

A. L. S.

New York 27th May 1772

DEAR SIR

I rec^{d} yours 21st Ins^{t}. & shall call on M^{r}. Maturin & receive your Money & also from M^{rs}. Mortier — & shall send you

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[1] In Johnson's hand.

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

Johnson hall June 29th 1772.

My Lord,

Since I had the honor of writing to your Lordship my Letter No. 17. of the 4th of April concerning the Embassy to the Southward & death of Thos. King, Chief of the Deputies, The Six Nations have sent Delegates from every Nation to attend the second General Congress at Scioto, as mentioned in my last, where my Deputy is gone to be present, Whilst my Resident on the Ouabache has Instructions how to govern himself on any event that may arise from the intended Negociations, till when we were likely to have remaind in a state of suspence; but for a late unlucky Transaction the particulars of which (as it may be productive of very ill consequences) It is my duty to lay before your Lordship.

A certain man of the name of Ramsay who formerly lived amongst the Indians, and was by Capt Brown late Commands officer at Niagara sent away to Quebec, to prevent his doing farther mischief amongst them, has since found means to get a small cargo of goods upon Credit with which he went to Lake Erie where he Traded for some time with the Chipeweighs & Misisagas at a considerable distance from any Fort, or place of Inspection or Controul, but being of a disagreable Temper, and probably endeavoring to over reach them, they warned him to remove, otherwise they would maltreat him, of which however he took no notice but seemed to set them at defiance which shortly after occasioned a quarrel between him & some of them who were in Liquor, of whom he killed three; upon this he withdrew to another place on Lake Erie apprehensive of their Resentment, and last April a party of the Misisagas called at his Trading hut where they drank very plentifully, and as is usual with them on all such occasions quarelled, and threatened him as he says with Death to which he adds that they laid hands on him & bound him, however he freed himself, and killed three men, one woman, and an Infant, and as an aggravation of the same took off their scalps which he brought into Niagara, where he was imediately confined by order of the Commanding officer,—This accot is partly taken from his own confession to that officer, and from the accot given of it by his Brother and others, before the story was new modelled as it has been since to favor him,—To Excuse his having scalped them which with Indians is considered as a National Act, and Declaration of War he says he was told that War had been actually commenced between the English and Indians, and that in his hurry & confusion the Woman & Child were killed,—but it appears clearly to me, and it is likewise the opinion of his Excelly General Gage, that he has been guilty of these murders thro' Wantonness & Cruelty. For, in the first place the Indians whenever they meditate mischief carefully avoid Liquor, whereas it appears that they were very much disguised, and tho' apt to use Threats & quarrel at such times, yet incapable of putting them in execution, as is evident from the number he killed of them, and in the next place he could have but little Temptation to kill the Woman, and not the least inducement to murder the Child but what has arose from sentiments of Barbarity superior to the most Cruel Savage, who seldom puts an Infant to death.—The General has directed him to be sent to Canada to be tryed, but, (as is usual on such occasions) the Interest which his Creditors will make with those who are his Jurors, and the prejudices of the Commonalty against Indians will probably prove the means of his being acquitted, altho' he makes use of threats that he will do much more mischief when enlarged. The nation imediately sent down 15 Deputies to lay the matter before me, & to assure me that they had given strict orders to prevent any sudden act of Resentment, and that they relied on our Justice in affording them such satisfaction as the Case required, as well as in preventing the like for the future, to which end they (after complaining much of the want of any Regulation for Trade) requested that Traders might not be suffered to go where they pleased but confined to the Posts and there duly Inspected.—I enlarged much on the circumstance alledged by Ramsay, that the Indˢ. threatened his Life In which case I observed that not only the English Laws, but the Laws of Nature justified his defending himself, and after adding every thing I thought prudent or necessary I covered (according to Custom) the Graves of the 8 Persons whom he killed, and dismissed the Deputies with a large & handsome present, and with proper messages & belts to their Nation.—The Indians at parting expressed themselves very favorably and I am willing to hope that the affair may be accommodated, nevertheless I am so sensible of their Resentments that I have judged it necessary to be thus particular, because the Chipeweighs and Misisagas, are by far the most numerous & powerfull nation with whom we have any connection in North America, being second only to the Sioux in numbers, and from their situation capable of affording great Encouragemᵗ. to Trade, or putting an entire end to it, nor could it be expected that others woᵈ. enter warmly into our alliance when they considered the Cause of their defection,—The Traders are all come into Niagara &ᶜᵃ to avoid the Resentment they apprehend from the Indians, I have allready described what may reasonably be apprehended, whilst I use every endeavor in my power, to prevent its being realized; but I leave your Lordship to judge how difficult a task it is to Calm the passions of Incensed Savages, and to keep them faithfull to engagements, whilst they find themselves exposed to the Licentious outrages of our own people against which no remedy is as yet provided.

The Rᵗ. honbˡᵉ
The Earl of Hillsborough.

LORD HILLSBOROUGH TO SIR Wᴹ. JOHNSON.

Whitehall, July 1st 1772.

SIR,

I have recᵈ your Dispatch Nº 17 and have laid it before the King.

Had any thing of moment been transacted at the great Congress at Sioto, the Deaths of the Principal Indian Chiefs, upon whom you relied for a faithful Report of the Proceedings at that Congress, would have been unfortunate; but, if the Accounts given by Nicaroondase are true, very little of Importance was transacted, and the whole seems to have ended, as such Meetings generally have done, with Excuses on the part of the Indians for past Irregularities, and with Promises, which are seldom or never kept, of behaving better for the future.

I must confess to you that, after the very full Assurances I had received, that all the Indians concerned in the Treaty at Fort Stanwix had fully pledged themselves for the Cession to His Majesty of the Lands in Virginia to the West and South West of the Allegany Mountains, it is a very great Surprise to me now to find that the Shawanese are at least dissatisfied with, if not disposed to disavow that Cession, so far as it regards the Lands on the Ohio above the Kanawah.

Every Day discovers more and more the fatal Policy of departing from the Line prescribed by the Proclamation of 1763; and the Extension of it on the ground of a Cession made by the Six Nations, of Lands, their Right to which, is denied by other Nations equally powerful and more numerous, instead of being attended with Advantage to this Kingdom and Security to the Colonies, is now likely to have no other Consequence than that of giving a greater Scope to distant Settlements, which I conceive to be inconsistent with every true Principle of Policy, and which I clearly see from your last Letter, will most probably have the Effect to produce a general Indian War, the Expense whereof will fall upon this Kingdom.

much on the circumstance alledged by Ramsay, that the Ind^{s}. threatened his Life In which case I observed that not only the English Laws, but the Laws of Nature justified his defending himself, and after adding every thing I thought prudent or necessary I covered (according to Custom) the Graves of the 8 Persons whom he killed, and dismissed the Deputies with a large & handsome present, and with proper messages & belts to their Nation.—The Indians at parting expressed themselves very favorably and I am willing to hope that the affair may be accommodated, nevertheless I am so sensible of their Resentments that I have judged it necessary to be thus particular, because the Chipeweighs and Misisagas, are by far the most numerous & powerfull nation with whom we have any connection in North America, being second only to the Sioux in numbers, and from their situation capable of affording great Encouragem^{t}. to Trade, or putting an entire end to it, nor could it be expected that others wo^{d}. enter warmly into our alliance when they considered the Cause of their defection,—The Traders are all come into Niagara &^{ca} to avoid the Resentment they apprehend from the Indians, I have allready described what may reasonably be apprehended, whilst I use every endeavor in my power, to prevent its being realized; but I leave your Lordship to judge how difficult a task it is to Calm the passions of Incensed Savages, and to keep them faithfull to engagements, whilst they find themselves exposed to the Licentious outrages of our own people against which no remedy is as yet provided.

The R^{t}. honb^{le}
The Earl of Hillsborough.

LORD HILLSBOROUGH TO SIR W^{M}. JOHNSON.

Whitehall, July 1st 1772.

SIR,

I have rec^{d} your Dispatch N^{o} 17 and have laid it before the King.

Had any thing of moment been transacted at the great Congress at Sioto, the Deaths of the Principal Indian Chiefs, upon whom you relied for a faithful Report of the Proceedings at that Congress, would have been unfortunate; but, if the Accounts given by Nicaroondase are true, very little of Importance was transacted, and the whole seems to have ended, as such Meetings generally have done, with Excuses on the part of the Indians for past Irregularities, and with Promises, which are seldom or never kept, of behaving better for the future.

I must confess to you that, after the very full Assurances I had received, that all the Indians concerned in the Treaty at Fort Stanwix had fully pledged themselves for the Cession to His Majesty of the Lands in Virginia to the West and South West of the Allegany Mountains, it is a very great Surprise to me now to find that the Shawanese are at least dissatisfied with, if not disposed to disavow that Cession, so far as it regards the Lands on the Ohio above the Kanawah.

Every Day discovers more and more the fatal Policy of departing from the Line prescribed by the Proclamation of 1763; and the Extension of it on the ground of a Cession made by the Six Nations, of Lands, their Right to which, is denied by other Nations equally powerful and more numerous, instead of being attended with Advantage to this Kingdom and Security to the Colonies, is now likely to have no other Consequence than that of giving a greater Scope to distant Settlements, which I conceive to be inconsistent with every true Principle of Policy, and which I clearly see from your last Letter, will most probably have the Effect to produce a general Indian War, the Expense whereof will fall upon this Kingdom.

The King's Commands have been already signified to General Gage for the Removal of the French and other vagabond Traders on the Ouabache, and His Majesty having also approved of an Indian Officer being established in that part of the Country, you will probably before this reaches you have received General Gage's Instructions to you for that purpose.

You well know, Sir, what are my sentiments with regard to the Regulation of the Indian Trade, but as the plan which I had the Honor, in Conjunction with the rest of my Brethren at the Board of Trade, to suggest for that purpose (and which I am vain enough to think would have operated as a Remedy to the Enormities which have been complained of,) was not adopted, it must depend upon each Colony to take care of its own interests in that respect.

I am, Sir,
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
HILLSBOROUGH.

Sir William Johnson Bar^t

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

AT THE COURT AT ST JAMES'S THE 14TH DAY OF AUGUST 1772.

(L S) Present,

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY in Council

WHEREAS there was this day read at the Board a Report from the Right Honourable the Lords, of the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs dated the first of last month in the words following Viz.

" "YOUR MAJESTY having been pleased by Your Order in Council of the 24^th of May 1770 to refer unto " this Committee the humble Memorial of Thomas Walpole Benjamin Franklin John Sargent and Samuel " Wharton on Behalf of themselves and their Associates, Setting forth that the Memorialists and others " presented a Petition to your Majesty in Council praying a Grant of Lands in America (parcel of the " Lands purchased by the Government of the Indians) in Consideration of a price to be paid in purchase " of the same; that the said Petition was referred by Order of Council to the Lords Commissioners for " Trade and Plantations; that the memorialists in pursuance of a Suggestion, which arose upon " Consideration of the said Petition at that Board, of making a Purchase of a larger Tract of Land " sufficient for a Separate Government were directed to apply to the Lords Commissioners of the " Treasury in respect to the Price to be paid for the purchase of such Tract and the Quit Rent to be " reserved thereon; that the Memorialists in Consequence thereof did on the 4^th day of January last " present to the said Lords Commissioners of the Treasury a memorial and Paper containing a " description of the Lands they were desirous of Purchasing as follows, Viz^t

" " "Beginning on the South side of the River Ohio opposite to the mouth of Sioto, thence Southerly " " through the pass in the Ouasioto Mountains, to the South side of the said Mountains, thence along " " the side of the said Mountains North Easterly to the Fork of the Great Kenhawa, made by the " " junction of Green Briar and new River, thence along the said Green Briar River, on the Easterly " " side of the same unto the Head or termination of the North Easterly branch thereof, thence Easterly " " to the Allegheny mountains, thence along the said Allegheny mountains, to Lord Fairfax's Line, thence " " along the same to the Spring head of the North Branch of the River Powtomack, thence along the

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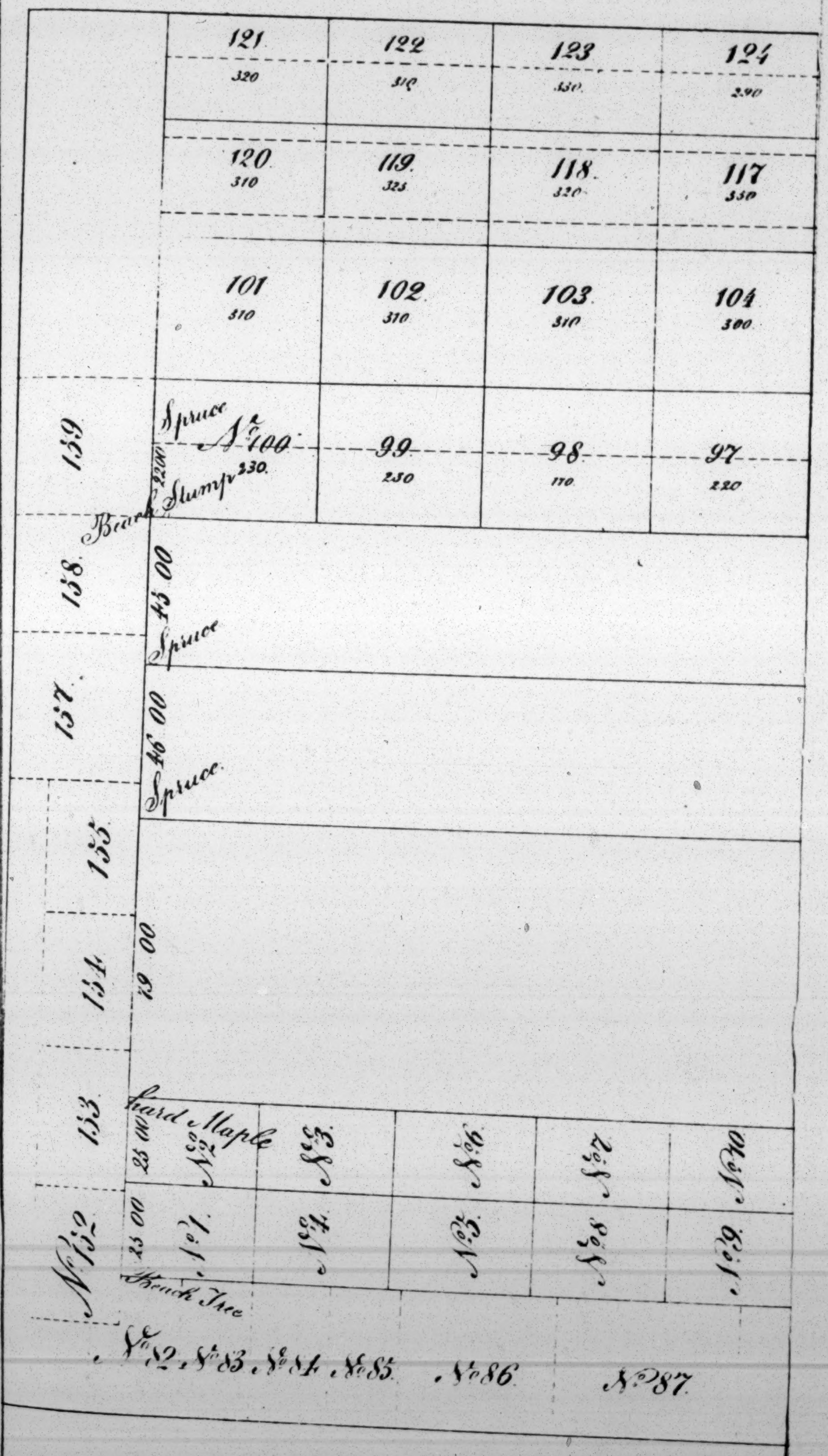
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“ or improving any part of the lands lying between the

Copy of Governor Tryon's Speech to the Conojoharie July 29th 1772

Brothers the Chiefs and Warriors of the Mohocks

I gave much Attention to your Speech Yesterday, recd it with a very friendly Regard, and now thank you for your hearty Congratulations upon my Arrival, and your favorable Sentimts of my Conduct in my former Governmt — I cannot however approve of your Sachims relinquishing the Subject of these present Grievances to the Young Warrs. I consider it very extraordinary and unbecoming in them to quit the Care of publick affairs to young men at a time when they are in a strict friendship and firm Alliance wth K. George, therefore as I visit your nation as his Majesties Civil Govr I desire to treat wth the Sachims, Officers of Peace, Men of Wisdom & Experience &c

Brotrs — When I came up amongst you, I was quite a Stranger to the Grievances you had to lay before me; but now you tell me the Nature of them, & refer me to yr Bro. Sr Wm Johnson for the Particulars wth the former Proceedgs that have been had to do you Justice wch you say is not yet accomplished, I shall exert my utmost Endeavours to secure your titles to that small tract wch is the support of your selves & families —

Brotrs — It is very probable I shall be obliged not only to solicit his Majesty on yr behalf, but the Legislative body of this Province in order to effect your apparent necessary Wishes — You must therefore wait patiently in the mean time that I may be able to serve you as soon as that it is in my power. His Majesties express Commands to me are that I should do you all possible Justice & to protect you against the fraud & Oppression of those who are unjust and bring you any Injury. It is as much my Inclination as my Duty to attend to yr Interest & Security, as by so doing I shall only obey my Royal Master's Command

&c

Brot^{r}.

Long before I came into America I heard of the Warlike Disposition of the Mohocks, and the Renown & Glory of their Actions as well as their Steady & firm Attachm^{t}. to his Majesties Cause; but upon this Interview I am Confirmed in these Sentim^{ts}. I before Entertained of your Nation, only on Report.

Brot^{r}.

I must Repeat to you again, I cannot reconcile y^{e} Relinquishing your affairs to ~~your~~ the young men. In a State of War, I would treat wth. Warr^{s}.; but in a time of profound Peace, as is the pres^{t}. I am to desire you will recommit y^{e} publick Concerns to the Sachims. Your Refusal to this Just Expectation of mine, I Shall Interpret as a Want of proper Confidence on y^{r} Part in the publick Justice of this Governm^{t}. — You have King George for y^{r} Protector, & under him his Representative, therefore you Stand not in need of Warriors to support y^{r}. present Cause, especially whilst you are in the Possess^{n}. of the Lands in Question.

Brot^{r}.

Sincere in my Declarations, and upright in my Intentions to Serve you, I Shall only add I w^{d}. not have you make your Selves uneasy whilst a Hunting, or Suffer y^{r} Spirits to be disturbed when Sleeping, on the apprehension of losing the Small Tract you Occupy; for while you have the protection of Governm^{t}., in Support of your antient & equitable Claims, you need not fear the Avarice, fraud or Injustice of Individuals.

Copy of Govr. Tryon's Speech to the Mohock Inds. of the lower Village July 29th. 1772 —

Brothrs. the Chiefs & Warrs. of the Mohocks.

I am much obliged by your Congratulations on my Arrival at this place, and in return for your civil Complimt., I do assure you that I am strongly inclined to serve yu.; and that the Character I have recd. of your your fidelity and friendship to the English has already prepossessed me in yr. favr.: I have therefore given due Attention to what you have said —

I am sorry to hear that you should have any Cause of Complaint agst. any of his Majesties Subjects in this Province, particularly wth. regard to so interesting a part of yr. property, but I am hopeful that yu. have been misinformed as to the pretd. Claims of the Corporn. of Albany, wch. is the more probable, as it does not appear that you have recd. your information from proper Authority. Brothrs. — As you have yourselves expressed a desire that the Lands you mention shd. be properly laid out by a Surveyor, wch. I very much approve, I shall accordingly ~~[illegible]~~ order direct the same to be done immediately, & on the return of the Survey to me, I shall take such Measures as are consistent wth. my Authority for the Security & full Contentmt. to yrselves, & to yr. Posterity, being heartily disposed to shew you all the favr., & afford you all the Protection wch. Governmt. can give in return for your faithful attachmt. to his Majesties Subjects. — I am told you are going to sell some Lands to certain of his Majesties Subjects who have obtained Licence from this Governmt. to purchase the same &c. I wish therefore what you are determined to sell, may be your own free & voluntary Act; & I recommend it to yu. to take particular care that the bounds & limits of the Lands to be sold, may be so well fixed & ascertained as to be void of all disputes hereafter, or to give you reason to complain of any unfairness in the Purchase —

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You tell me you are more than ordinary uneasy by Persons lately attempting to make a particular Survey of the antient Possessions on w^{ch} you now Reside. they had no Authority from Governm^{t}; consequently had no Right to run that Survey, & that I may be Informed of the exact Quantity of Land you have had Released to you, and for your own immediate Satisfaction, I shall order the Surveyor General, or one of his Dep^{ties} forthwith to make a Survey of the Courses & Distances of the above mentioned Lands, therefore desire some of y^{r} People will accompany, & be pres^{t} at the s^{d} Survey, a Copy of w^{ch} when finished shall be sent to me, and another Copy left wth y^{r} Brother S^{r} W^{m} Johnson

Governor Tryon
Speech &c
to Indians July 24
1772

[illegible] Johnson hall [illegible]

Indians Tuesday July 28th 1772.

Present as before

Hendrick Speaker
Arose & Spoke as follows, addressing his Excelly the Governor,

Brother We Give thanks to the great Spirit [illegible] at this our Council fire, where we have long [illegible] pleasure of seeing you, We have heard so much of your [illegible] and Good Conduct in the Colony wherein you lately presided, th Cannot but be very much prejudiced in your favor, and we f ourselves that your Excellys love of Justice will incline you to g us redress of those Grievances under which we labour, and wh shall now relate to you, we therefore beg you will give Attention.

Brother We have been very much Wronged and Injured upon regard to our Lands particularly by the Albany [illegible] lay C to the very Lands on which we dwell and from whence we draw o Principal Support. This they endeavor under Colour of a Deed wh they pretend conveys our Lands to the Corporation of the [illegible] That it was only intended by our Forefathers, to be in trust for posterity Judging the people of the City to be their Friends, & would prove as Guardians of the same for our use: When in the Administration of Govr. Cosby we Discovered their fraudulence we desired to see their Deed which with Difficulty was at length pr and was burnt by Cerra one of our Sachems in the Govrs. presence, we have still reason to apprehend that they mean to their unjust Claim, and therefore we beg to have your Excelly [illegible] and that you will secure [illegible]

to [illegible]

Authority to secure these Lands to us & our posterity, and as it is notorious, that we have ever been faithfull Friends & Allies to the English, to whom we have likewise Sold all the Land they possess here, and as we made a particular Exception of the Lands round us at the great Treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1768, we hope that your Excell.y will afford us relief, in Order to which we think, it would be necessary to Order that the same be forthwith Surveyed, that we may know the Exact quantity of our possessions and may be secured in the Enjoyment of them, For as we have ever Assisted the English in their Wars, and thereby so far weakened ourselves that we are now reduced to an Inconsiderable Number, we think ourselves intitled to the favor & protection of Government.

His Excell.y then desired they might be asked whether any of the principal Inhabitants or Members of the Corporation of the City of Albany had [illegible] such Claims, or whether it arose from the Talk of their Neighbours To which the Speaker Answered That they had not been particularly applied to by the Corporation of late, but that they frequently heard of it from many other persons. —

His Excell.y then told them that he had attended to all they had Said, but as it was then late, he should take the same into Consideration and give them an Answer tomorrow pens as any in the old Countries. The Towns of Albany and Schenectady are both flourishing, and will continue to do so, in proportion as the back settlements are extended.

I am with all possible respect
My Lord.
Your Lord$^{p's}$ most obedient servant
W^{m} Tryon.

Proceedings of Sir William Johnson with the Mohawks.

[New-York Papers (S. P. O.) CLXIV.]

Proceedings at a Congress held with the Canajohare Indians at Johnson Hall on Tuesday the 28th day of July 1772.

Present — His Excell^{cy} W^{m} Tryon Esq^{re} Governor ettc of N. York.
The Hon^{ble} Sir W^{m} Johnson Bar^{t} his Maj$^{ty's}$ Superintend^{t}
The Hon^{ble} Oliver de Lancey } Esq^{rs} of the Council.
The Hon^{ble} Henry White }
Guy Johnson Esq^{re} Dep^{ty} Agent for Indian Affairs
Edm^{d} Fanning Esq^{re} private Secr: to his Excell^{cy}
Rich^{d} Shuckburgh Esq^{re} Sec^{ty} for Indian Affairs and several other Gentlemen.

Decarihoga Speaker stood up and addressed his Excell^{cy} the Gov^{r}, saying that they were happy to find that the great spirit above had permitted him to come in safety to their Council fire; that the Ind^{ns} had ardently wished to see him, and now congratulated him on the occasion. he then proceeded as follows:

Brother. We mean to take this opportunity of laying before you the grievances under which we labour, and the ill treatment we have received from several White people, who endeavour to defraud us of our Lands; this we several times laid before his Maj$^{ty's}$ former Gov^{rs} of New York, and have waited with the utmost impatience hitherto for redress, but to no purpose. At length, our old people tired with delay, have come to a resolution of putting the business into the hands of the young Warriors, who will speak to you upon it.

Whereupon Joseph stood up and said:

Brother. We are extremely happy to see you here this day, as we have long desired it, and hope that thro' your means we shall obtain redress. We have been often deceived, and defrauded of large Tracts; but that which at present gives us most concern, is, the little Tract which surrounds us, on which we live, and of which we hear, we are now likely to be deprived. This fills us all with such concern, and is of so alarming a nature, that whether we are in our beds, or ranging the woods in quest of game, it still occurs to us, and deprives us of rest.

Brother. The reason of our having been so anxious to see your Excell^{cy} of late was from the hopes we conceived of obtaining redress through your love of Justice, and from the great character, which we rec^{d} of you both, before and since your arrival; we therefore have the strongest hopes of meeting with that justice from you, which hitherto we have in vain applied for.

Brother, By the many sales we have from time to time made of large Tracts to accommodate your people, we are now reduced to very scanty limits, and have only one little spot left, which we can call our own. This very piece, we are told daily, by sundry people will be taken from us, which fills us with great concern, neither can we by any means account for it, having always lived in the strictest friendship with the English, & faithfully served and assisted them in all their Wars against their Enemies; we therefore cannot but think it extremely hard to suffer such treatm^{t} in return for our friendship and past services. We have seen that those Officers and Soldiers who served in this Country during the late War, have been rewarded with Tracts of Land in return for their services, and as we were aiding and assisting in the same cause, we must deem it a peculiar hardship in case we are not permitted to hold this little Remnant undisturbed. We shall not at present give your Excell^{cy} the trouble of attending to a particular detail of the circumstances relative to this matter, especially, as our Brother Sir William Johnson, now present, is well acquainted with every thing concerning it, and can lay the same before you. We shall only observe that this Tract on which we live was fraudulently obtained and surveyed in the night by moonlight, and a patent procured for it by M^{r} Livingston and others without our knowledge. Of this we complained many years since, & particularly in 1763, when we found that possession was going to be taken of our very village, but still desirous to live peaceably, we at length agreed with the parties to take a release of that part of the Tract, which we occupied, in which we apprehended there was no fraud; nevertheless, we have since found, that there were still designs to deceive us, for George Klocke one of those concerned, refused to sign the release, and on being summoned before the late Sir Henry Moore in 1768, he persisted in his refusal, and said that he had been so advised by M^{r} Livingston at New York, who told him, that his (M^{r} Livingston's) signing it, could be of no effect, if Klocke did not sign it, and that therefore Klocke should not sign it, so that we apprehend, an advantage is intended to be taken of us, the rather as some Surveyors have lately attempted to survey it. Now Brother, we rely on your justice for relief, and hope we may obtain it, so as to continue to live peaceably, as we have hitherto done. We are sensible that we are at present but a small number, but nevertheless our connections are powerful, and our alliances many, & should any of these perceive that we who have been so remarkable for our fidelity and attachment to you, are ill used and defrauded, it may alarm them, and be productive of dangerous consequences. We shall only add, that our reliance is upon your Excell^{cy} and that as our cause of complaint is well founded, and that we have repeatedly applied for redress, we may now as soon as possible obtain such relief, as our case deserves; and we are the more anxious to urge it at present, as we may apprehend it may be in your Excell$^{cy's}$ power to compel Klocke to execute the release without further delay.

Brother, We think it necessary to add, that at the Great Treaty held at Fort Stanwix in 1768 in the presence of several of His Maj$^{ty's}$ Gov^{rs}, when we joined with the rest of the Confederacy in making a great cession of Territory to the King, we particularly expected[1] such parts as were in the neighborhood of our Villages. These Tracts we were directed to get surveyed, in the doing of which we discovered that there is a piece of Land patented by M^{r}

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[1] *Sic.* excepted. *New-York Colonial Manuscripts.* — Ed.

Colden, with which we were never before acquainted, neither was it ever sold. This Brother, is the sum of those grievances with which we mean to trouble you at present, and on which we hope for redress.

To which his Excell^cy^ was pleased to make the following answer:

Brothers. I have given due attention to all that you have said, which I shall take into serious consideration, and deliver you an answer so soon as I am prepared.

At a Congress held, at Johnson Hall with the Mohock Indians on Tuesday July the 28th 1772.

PRESENT— as before.

Hendrik Speaker arose, and spoke as follows: addressing His Excellency the Governor.

Brother, We give thanks to the Great Spirit for your safe arrival at this our Council fire, where we have long wished for the pleasure of seeing you. We have heard so much of your wisdom and good conduct in the Colony wherein you last presided, that we cannot, but be very much prejudiced in your favour, and we flatter ourselves that your Excell^cy's^ love of Justice, will incline you to afford us redress of those grievances under which we labour, and which we shall now relate to you. We therefore beg you will give attention to them.

Brother, We have been very much wronged & imposed upon with regard to our Lands, particularly by the Albany people, who lay claim to the very lands on which we dwell, and from whence we draw our principal support. This they endeavour under colour of a deed, which they pretend conveys our Flatts to the corporation of that City, but in truth, was only intended by our forefathers to be in trust for us, and our posterity, judging the people of that City to be their friends, and that they would prove as guardians of the same for our use. When under the Administration of Gov^r^ Cosby we discovered their fraudulent intention, we desired to see this deed, which with difficulty was at length produced and was burnt by *Aria* one of our Sachems in the Gov^r's^ presence; but we have still reason to apprehend that they mean to support their unjust claim, and therefore we beg to have your Excell^cy's^ protection, and that you will secure these small remains of property to us, wh^ch^, from your Excell^cy's^ known character we have the strongest reason to expect.

Brother, As we have no doubt but that your Excell^cy^ has sufficient authority to secure these lands to us and our posterity, and as it is notorious that we have ever been faithful friends and Allies to the English, to whom we have likewise sold all the Lands they possess here, and as we made a particular exception of the lands round us at the great Treaty at Fort Stanwix in 1768. we hope that your Excell^cy^ will afford us relief, in order to which we think it would be necessary to order, that the same be forthwith surveyed, that we may know the exact quantity of our possessions, and may be secured in the enjoym^t^ of them; for as we have ever assisted the English in their Wars, and thereby so far weakened ourselves that we are now reduced to an inconsiderable number, we think ourselves entitled to the protection of Govern^t^.

His Excell^cy^ then desired they might be asked whether any of the principal Inhabitants or Members of the Corporation of the City of Albany had spoke to them concerning such claims, or whether it arose from the talk of their neighbours. To which the Speaker answered, that they had not been particularly applied to by the Corporation of late but that they frequently heard of it from many other persons.—His Excell^cy^ then told them that he had attended to all they had said, but as it was then late, he should take the same into considerat^{n} and give them an answer to morrow.

At a Congress with the same Indians Wednesday July 29th 1772.

Present— as yesterday

His Excell^{cy} the Gov^{r} delivered the following speech to the Conajohares:

Brothers, the Chiefs and Warriors of the Conajohares.

I gave much attention to your speech yesterday received it with a very friendly regard, and now thank you for your hearty congratulations upon my arrival, and your favourable sentiments of my conduct in my former Govern^{t}. I cannot however approve of your Sachems relinquishing the subject of their present grievances to the Young Warriors. I consider it very extraordinary and unbecoming in them to quit the care of public affairs to young men at a time when they are in strict friendship and alliance with King George, therefore, as I visit your Nation as his Maj$^{ty's}$ Civil Gov^{r}, I desire to treat with the Sachems, Officers of peace, Men of wisdom and experience.

Brothers, When I came up amongst you, I was quite a stranger to the grievances you had to lay before me, but now you told me the nature of them, and refer me to your Brother Sir W^{m} Johnson for the particulars, with the former proceedings that have been had to do you justice, which you say is not yet accomplished, I shall exert my utmost endeavors, to secure your title to that small Tract, which is the support of yourselves and families.

Brothers, it is very probable I shall be obliged not only to solicit His Maj^{ty} on your behalf, but the Legislative Body of this Prov^{ce} in order to effect your apparent reasonable wishes. You must therefore wait patiently, in the assurance that I wish to serve you as soon as [it is] in my power.

His Maj$^{ty's}$ express commands to me, are, that I should do you all possible justice, and to support you against the Frauds and oppression of those who are inclined to do you any injury, and it is as much my inclination as my duty to watch over your interest and security, as by so doing I shall only obey my Royal Master's commands.

You tell me, you are more than ordinary uneasy by persons lately attempting to make a particular Survey of the ancient possessions on which you now reside—they had no authority from Govern^{t}, consequently had no right to run that Survey; that I may be informed of the exact quantity of land you have had released to you and for your own immediate satisfaction, I shall order the Surveyor Gen^{l} or one of his Deputies forthwith to make a Survey of the Course and distances of the above mentioned lands—therefore desire some of your people will accompany, and be present at the said survey, a Copy of which, when furnished shall be sent to me, and another copy left with your Brother Sir William Johnson.

Brothers; long before I came into America, I heard of the warlike disposition of the Mohocks and the renown and glory of their Actions, as well as their steady and firm attachm^{t} to His Maj^{tys} cause, but upon this interview I am confirmed in those sentiments I before entertained of your Nation only from Report.

Brothers. I must repeat to you again, I cannot reconcile your relinquishing your affairs to the Young Men. In a state of war, I would treat with Warriors, but in time of profound peace, as is the present, I am to desire you will recommit your public concerns to the Sachems. Your refusal to this just expectation of mine, I shall interpret as a want of a proper confidence on your part in the public justice of this Govern^{t}. You have King George for your protector, and under him, his Representative, therefore you stand not in need of warriors to support your present cause, especially, while you are in the possession of the lands in question.

Brothers. Sincere in my declaration & upright in my intentions to serve you, I shall only add I would not have you make yourselves uneasy while a hunting, or suffer your spirits to be disturbed when sleeping, on the apprehension of losing the small Tract you occupy; for while you have the protection of Govern^{t} in support of your ancient and equitable claims, you need not fear the avarice, fraud or injustice of Individuals.

The Conajohares answered as follows by their Speaker.

Brother. We give your Excell^{cy} many thanks for your speech, which has been very acceptable to us, in as much, as we are inclined from your good words to place the greatest confidence in you for redress, beyond what we have ever done, as we have laid these complaints often before former Governors, but without effect. We shall now let our business go on in the old channel thro' our Sachems, and wait patiently the issue of Your Excell$^{cy's}$ endeavours for the redress of our grievances. We should wish that our lands were Surveyed without delay, that no future mistakes may be made concerning our property; and as your Excell^{cy} has now afforded such ease to our minds, we trust in the continuance of your protection for the more effectual security of our just rights and property.

To which His Excell^{cy} answered, that as they appeared so impatient to have their lands surveyed he should order the same to be done immediately.

His Excell^{cy} the Gov^{r} addressed the Mohock Indians of the lower village, as follows:

PRESENT— as before.

Brother the Chiefs, and Warriors of the Mohocks.

I am much obliged by your congratulations on my arrival at this place, and in return for your very civil compliments, I do assure you that I am strongly inclined to serve you, and that the character I have received of your fidelity and friendship to the English has already preposessed me in your favour; I have therefore given due attention to what you have said—

I am very sorry that you should have any causes of complaint against any of his Maj$^{ty's}$ subjects, in this province, particularly with regard to so interesting a part of your property, but I am hopefull that you have been misinformed as to the present claims of the Corporation of Albany, which is the more probable, as it does not appear, that you have received your information from proper authority.

Brothers. As you have yourselves expressed a desire that the lands you mention should be properly laid out by a surveyor which I very much approve, I shall accordingly order the same to be done immediately, and on the return of the survey to me, I shall take such measures as are consistent with my athority, for the security of its contents to yourselves, and to your posterity, being heartily disposed to shew you all the favour, and afford you all the protection, which Govern^{t} can give in return for your faithful attachment to his Maj$^{ty's}$ interest.

I am told, you are going to sell some lands to certain of His Maj$^{ty's}$ subjects, who have obtained license from this Govern^{t} to purchase the same. I wish therefore, what you are determined to sell, may be your own free and voluntary act, and I recommend it to you to take particular care, that the bounds and limits of the lands to be sold, may be so well fixed and assertained, as to admit of no dispute hereafter, or to give you reason to complain of any unfairness in the purchase.

The Mohocks returned the following answer by Abraham their Speaker vizt

Brother. We give your Excellcy many thanks for your speech, which has been very acceptable to us. We are particularly thankful for what you mention concerning the sales of lands now proposed to be perfected. As this is the first caution we have received of that nature from Governt, we are the more convinced of your rectitude and attention to our interests. We have been solicited by several persons to dispose of lands at this time, but before we proceed therein we think it necessary to acquaint your Excellcy, that some years since we sold a Tract to Messrs Glen,[1] Funda and Associates, for which we received a valuable consideration amounting to above 2000 Dollars, that on the Survey of this Tract it appeared to fall short of the quantity proposed to be purchased, owing to a Tract which was discovered to have been patented thereout, with which circumstance we were not, neither were the purchasers acquainted at the time of sale. Concerned thereat we then gave Messrs Glen & Co a promise that we should make him a compensation by a grant on the North side of the West Branch of Hudson's River, for which he now intends to solicit. We have likewise since that agreement engaged with Mr Jessup to sell him and associates a large tract in that Country, in which the lands proposed as a compensation are not included, but we have since heard, that another person who is interested in Mr Jessup's purchase insists on having the lands we so promised to Mr Glen; but we think this unreasonable, & not only contrary to our agreement with Mr Jessup, but to our promise to Mr Glen, whom we are bound in justice to fulfill our promise to. We therefore beg that your Excellcy will not desire us to act contrary to our engagements.

To which His Excellcy answered, that they might be assured that they were at liberty to dispose of their lands to such persons as they thought proper, and had first engaged with.

Thursday July the 30th

The Sachims and Chief Warriors of the Onejdas paid their respects to His Excellcy the Govr, giving thanks to the great spirit for the opportunity they had of seeing him, of whom they had received a very favourable character, and congratulating his Excellcy on his arrival. To which His Excellcy was pleased to answer, that he was sensible of their compliments of congratulation, and much pleased to see so venerable a Body of Sachems and respectable a number of chiefs assembled. That he had heard they intended to dispose of some lands in his presence, hoped that it was their own voluntary Act, and desired they would consider of it, and act therein so as to have no cause of complaint afterwards, and that on his part, he was determined to see them justly dealt with therein, & for that purpose, that the same should be Surveyed in their presence, and monuments placed to shew the limits to posterity.

Conoghquieson Chief of Onejda addressed the Govr as follows:

Brother, We are much obliged to your Excellcy for the question you asked us, and for the attention you shew to our interests, as it is a proof of your justice and convinces us that we shall be fairly dealt with. The Great Spirit gave us our lands and we love them so much that we never offered any to sale; but whenever our Brothers the English have appeared in want of Lands, and applied to us, we have always granted their desire, as we now purpose to do, and we are so much convinced, by your conduct, of your Excell$^{cy's}$ love of justice, that we rely confidently upon you.

a true copy.
G. Banyar
D. Secretary.

a true copy Examined by,
G. Johnson. D. Agent
as Secretary.

At a Council held at Johnson Hall in the County of Tryon on Wednesday the twenty ninth Day of July 1772.

Present

His Excellency William Tryon Esquire Captain General &ca

The Honoble: Sir William Johnson Baronet

Mr De Lancey

Mr White

His Excellency informed the Board that Matters of a new and unusual Nature having occurred since his Arrival, he thought it advisable to call a Meeting of the Council on the Occasion ./.

[illegible]inistred
[illegible]m John-
[illegible]takes his
[illegible]e Board

Sir William Johnson not having had an Opportunity before of Qualifying as a Member of Council under the Administration of Governor Tryon he then took the Oaths by Law required for the Qualification of publick Officers, and after that took his Seat at the Council Board accordingly ./.

[illegible] to the Speeches
[illegible]awks ap-
[illegible] ./.

His Excellency then informed the Council, that he had prepared Answers to the Speeches of the upper and lower Settlements of the Mohocks delivered to him the preceding Day, which being read was approved of by the Board ./.

[illegible]f Sir Wm
as to what
[illegible] Lands re-
[illegible] in the 51
[illegible]tion are com-
[illegible]ded within
[illegible]rovince

His Majesty's 51st Instruction to his Excellency was by him Ordered to be Read, which being done, his Excellency desired Sir William Johnson to inform him whether any or what part of the Lands referred to in the said Instruction, was comprehended in this Government, to which Sir William Johnson answered that he was of Opinion that the Quantity of Land which fell to the Share of this Province by the Concession made by the Six Nations at the Great Treaty at Fort Stanwix in 1768, might amount to about 600,000 Acres part of which was about that Time agreed for by sundry Persons with the Indians with the Approbation of Sir Henry Moore, who afterwards granted Patents for the same, but that the Sum then paid for the Cession Territory, was principally on Account of the great Quantity ceded to Virginia &ca as the Settlements and Purchases of New York had already reached so near the Indian Towns, that they would not incline to make a more favourable Line with New York ./.

from the Survey[illegible]
[illegible]ing the
Line be[illegible]
[illegible]vince & Quebec

His Excellency next laid before the Board a Letter he had received from Thomas Valentine dated the River Le Cole 11th July 1772 in the following Words.

May it please your Excellency..

We set out from Quebec the 20th of June, took the Stores we wanted from Three Rivers, called at St Francis in our way with intent to send part of our Provisions up that River, but received Information that we could as easily transport them up Missisqui River, which we rather chose, as it is not safe to entrust them in the Hands of Savages ./.

We depart hence immediately, and hope
two Months if no Accident happens: And if your Excellenc
Line continued to the River St. Lawrence, it can be done this Fall
Expence, than if postponed to another Season - I expect your Ins
Time We return, and am - Your Excellency's

most Obed.t Humble Servan

Thos. Vallentine./

The Surveyors, at their Return, to complete the Division Line from Lake Champlain to the River St. Lawrence

and desired the Opinion of the Council whether they thought it advisa
give Instructions to the said Vallentine, in Conjunction with the Surveyor
Quebec, after having run the Line Eastward to Connecticut River, to return
Point Moore the Place of Beginning, and extend the Division Line betwe
the two Governments until it should intersect the River St. Lawrence in the
forty fifth degree of Northern Latitude. His Excellency at the same Time ob
ving to the Board, that he considered the running of the Division Line to th
Westward, as a very necessary and essential Service to Government, and that
was willing to advance the Money on the Faith of the Publick for carrying
the same into Execution: Whereupon the Council humbly advised the running
of the Partition Line to the River St. Lawrence, as a Measure highly prope
and necessary for ascertaining and establishing the Boundaries between
this Government and that of Quebec./.

Commission for the [illegible]

His Excellency then informed the Board that a Petition had
been preferred to him by two Persons, who had been long under Confineme
in Albany Goal on a Criminal Accusation, and who could not be Tried at the
Court of Oyer and Terminer in Albany the last Term, the Crimes with which
they were charged having been committed out of the Jurisdiction of that Co
and desired the Opinion of the Board whether he should not in tender Consid
eration of the Length and Hardships of their Imprisonment, Order a Court of
Oyer and Terminer to be held at Johnstown for the Trial of the said Crimina
the Offence being charged to have been committed in the County of Tryon.
The Council taking the same into Consideration, humbly advised his
Excellency to issue a Commission for the Purpose of trying the said Pris
oners at Johnstown in September next, and that the Commission should
be directed to the Honorable Daniel Horsmanden Chief Justice, the Hon.ble
Sir William Johnson Baro.t, The Hon.ble David Jones, Robert R. Livingst
and George Duncan Ludlow Justices of the Supreme Court: To Col. Guy
Johnson. Sir John Johnson Knight Judges of the Court of Common
Pleas, and Others, in the usual Form of granting such Commissions.

At a Congreſs held at Johnson hall, with the Mohock Indians on Wednesday July 29th 1772...

Present as Yesterday.

His Excellcy the Governor addreſsed the Mohocks as follows in answer to their Speech of Yesterday.

Brothers the Chiefs & Warriors of the Mohocks.

I am much obliged by your Congratulations on my arrival at this place, and in return for your very Civil Compliments I do aſsure you, that I am ~~so~~ strongly inclined to serve you, and that the Character I have received of your fidelity, & Friendship to the English has already prepoſseſsed me in your favor; I ~~shall~~ have therefore given due attention to what you have to said.

Brothers,

I am very sorry to hear that you should have any Causes of Complaint against any of his Majestys Subjects in this Province, particularly with regard to so interesting a part of your property as but I am hopefull that you have been misinformed as to the pretend Claims of the Corporation of Albany; which is the more probable, as it does not appear that you have received your Information from proper Authority....

Brothers, As You have yourselves expreſsed a desire that the Lands you mention should be properly laid out by a Surveyor, ~~of Government~~ which I very much approve, I shall accordingly direct the same to be done immediately, and on the Return of the Survey to me I shall take such Measures for as are Consistent with my Authority for the Security of its Contents to yourselves & your posterity, being heartily disposed to shew you all the favor, & afford you all the protection which Government can give, in return for your Faithfull Attachment to his Majesties interests.

At a Congress held at Johnson Hall, with the Mohawk Indians of the Lower Village on Wednesday July 29th 1772 —

Present as Yesterday

His Excellency the Governor Addressed the Mohawks as follows in answer to their Speech of Yesterday. —

Brothers the Chiefs & Warriors of the Mohawks —

~~Sachems & Warriors~~ I am much obliged by your Congratulations on my arrival at this place, and in return for your very Cordial Compliments I do assure you that I am strongly inclined to serve you, and that the Character I have received of your fidelity & friendship to the English has already prepossessed me in your favor. I have therefore given due attention to what you have said —

I am very sorry to hear that you should have any causes of Complaint against any of his Majesty's Subjects in this Province, particularly with regard to encroaching on your property but I am hopefull that you have been misinformed as to the present Claims of the Corporation of Albany, which is the more probable, as it does not appear that you have received your Information from proper Authority.

Brothers, As you have yourselves expressed a desire that the Lands you mention should be properly laid out by a Surveyor which I very much approve, I shall accordingly ~~desire~~ order the same to be done immediately, and on the return of the Survey to me I shall take such measures as are Consistent with my Authority for the Security of its Contents to yourselves, and to your posterity, being heartily disposed to shew you all the favor, and afford you all the protection which Government can give, in return of your faithfull attachment to his Majesty's Interests — I am told you are going to sell some Lands to Certain of His Majesty's Subjects, who have obtained Licence from this government to purchase the same. I wish therefore what you are determined to sell may be your own free and Voluntary Act. and I recommend it to you to take particular care that the Bounds and Limits of the Lands to be sold, may be so well fixed and ascertained, as to admit of no Disputes hereafter or to give you reason to complain of any unfairness in the purchase.

Resolved by this Board that Mess^{rs} Mynd: Roseboom & Abraham Ten Eyck be a Committe to see at the Treasury wether there is any acc^{t} due to Peter Benneway or no, if there is to deliver the same to the Board and to be allowed. Also an acc^{t} of the Estate of Mr. Dirck Ten Broeck.

At a Common Council held for the City of Albany at the City Hall of the said City on Saturday the 13th June, 1772.

Resolved by this Board that the Clerk draw an order on the Treasurer in favour of Jacob F. Lansingh for £5 for a Bull.

A Petition being presented to this Board for making a Road leading from the City of Albany through Stephen Town, Pittsfield & Lansburgh.

At a Common Council held for the City of Albany at the City Hall of the said City on Thursday the 2d July, 1772.

Resolved by this Board that the City Chaimberlain sell two hundred Skipple of wheat at five shillings and six pence ℔ Skipple, and no more than three Skiple to one person.

Resolved by this Mess^{rs} Piter Silvester, Rob^{t} Yates and Jeremiah Van Renselaer be a Committe to draw an Address to his Excellency on his arrivel.

At a Common Council held for the City of Albany at the City Hall of the said City on Saturday the 18th July, 1772.

Resolved by this Board that his Excellency William Tryon be presented with the freedom of this City in a Golden Box.

Also Resolved that this Board do address his Excellency on his arrival to this City.

At a Common Council held for City of Albany at the City Hall of the said City on Monday the 3d August, 1772.

Resolved by this Board that the Clerk draw an order on the City Chaimberlain in favour of Richard Cartwright for £18:4:6.

Resolved that Mess^{rs} Ald^{n} A. Yates, Rob^{t} Yates & Jeremiah Van Renselaer or any two of them be a Committe to draw up a state of the Corporation Claim to the lands in the Mohawks Country and that they may have recourse to any papers or vouchers remaining with the Clerk or Chaimberlain of this Corporation for that purpose to be occasionally to be made use of or laid before his Excellency to answer the complaint brought before him ag^{t} the Corporation by the Mohawks.

Resolved by this Board that Bastian Visscher leave of making the road any longer from the City Gate to the Sand bergh and that he bring in his acc^{t} for one years wages and that it be allowed.

At a Common Council held for the City of Albany at the City Hall of the said City on Thursday the 19th day of August, 1772.

Resolved by this Board that the Clerk draw orders the following Acct^{s}, viz:

One D^{o} in favour of Robert Lansingh for	£5: 8:10
One D^{o} in favour of Jacob Cuyler for	4:19: 0

Resolved by this Board that upon Mr. Yates producing a rough Draft of the state of the case reletive to the Corporations Claim to a seat in the Court of Oyer & Terminer that we cause the same to be copied and sent down for revisal of the Attornies concerned for this Board in New York,

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New Y
on Friday the twenty first Day of August 1772 P.M.

Present

His Excellency William Tryon Esquire Captain General &c.ª

Mr Horsmanden } Mr Smith
Mr Watts } Mr Cruger
Mr De Lancey } Mr White
Mr Apthorp } Mr Axtell.

concur
ure for
the Par
between
ec and
&c.

The Minutes of the Council held by his Excellency at Johnson Hall in the County of Tryon on the 29th of July last, being Read. The Board concurs in Opinion that it will be a proper Measure as soon as the Line of Partition between this Province and Quebec, shall be run from Lake Champlain to Connecticut River, for his Excellency to direct the Surveyors on the Part of both Provinces, to return to Point Moor, the Station fixed on the East side of Lake Champlain, and to extend the Division Line between the two Governments, until it shall intersect the River St Lawrence in the forty fifth Degree of Northern Latitude &c.

ings at the
of 15th Nov
ns.

His Excellency then communicated to the Council Copies of the proceedings at a Congress held with the Mohawk and Canajohary Indians on the 28th: 29th and 30th days of July last which were Read and Ordered to be filed. &c.

Order
tions &c
and
usa.

Captain Hammond Commander of his Majesty's Ship Arethusa attending and desiring to be admitted, was called in, and laid before his Excellency in Council the Instructions he had received from Admiral Montagu relative to his Conduct wherever he may happen to be Stationed, and then withdrew. &c.

transmit the
edings of the
ssioners
ent of the
New Jer
Jersey

His Excellency laid before the Board the Copy of his Majesty's Order in Council dated the 27th April 1770, relative to the Transmission of the proceedings of the Commissioners appointed by the King's Commission for settling the Division between this Province and the Colony of New Jersey, and desired the Opinion of the Council as to the Steps necessary to be taken for carrying the said Order into Execution. &c.

The Council humbly advised his Excellency to Cause a Copy of his Majesty's said Order to be served on Andrew Elliot Esquire one of the said Commissioners, that he may take the proper Measures for carrying the same into Execution, and that his Excellency do send Notice thereof to Mr Franklin Governor of the Province of New Jersey. &c.

on Ordered
Peter Joh

His Excellency communicated to the Board a Letter of the 14th of August Instant, recommending as an Object of the Royal Clemency, Peter Johnson who was lately convicted of Felony at the Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Goal Delivery for the County of Ulster, and now lies under Sentence of Death, and having desired their Opinion thereupon: The Board was of Opinion that his Excellency give his Majesty's pardon to the Prisoner, on Condition that he leaves the province within Forty eight Hours after his Discharge. &c.

[War]rants on the [Tre]asurer —

The following Warrants on the Treasurer having [been signed]
by his Excellency the Governor with the Advice of the Counc[il]

No. 2145
To Gerard Bancker towards furnishing his Majesty's Troops
in this Colony with necessaries from the 1st Day of January last
the Sum of - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

2146
To Jacob Walton and James Jauncey Esquires to be by them applied in
repairing the Fortifications in this City the Sum of - - - -

Justices for Dutches and Charlotte Counties

It is Ordered by his Excellency the Governor with the Advice of the Co[uncil]
that John Terril Esquire be appointed one of his Majesty's Justices of the Pea[ce]
of the Quorum for the County of Dutches, and that a Commission issue accord[ingly]

Also ordered that when a Commission of the Peace shall Issue fo[r the]
County of Charlotte the Name of John Griffiths be inserted therein. —

Letter and Report of Mr. Ruggles' Inspect[or] and Surveyer of White Pine Trees

His Excellency communicated to the Board a Letter from Timothy
Ruggles Esquire, Inspector and Surveyor of White Pine Trees dated the 1st Ju[ne]
inclosing to his Excellency by his Majesty's Command, Copies of a Report an[d]
of a Map of three Tracts of Land on the West Side of Connecticut River, on [which]
there are a considerable Growth of Pine Trees, and which Tracts it is said in [the]
said Report have been Surveyed, and are described by the Maps therewith
transmitted to the Rt. Honble. the Lord High Treasurer, the Commission[ers]
for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral, and the Commissioners
for Trade and Plantations with Explanations of those Maps. —

At a Council held at Fort George in the City of New Yor[k]
on Tuesday the Eighth Day of September 1772. —

Present

His Excellency William Tryon Esquire Captain General &c.

Mr. Horsmanden	Mr. Smith
Mr. Watts.	Mr. Cruger
Mr. De Lancey	Mr. White
Mr. Apthorp	Mr. Axtell
Mr. Morris.	

[Case] of Felix [Meigs] for passing [Counterf]eit Bills of [Credit]

His Excellency communicated to the Board sundry Petitions and
other Papers, among the rest a Letter from the Governor and another from the
Lieutenant Governor of the Colony of Connecticut, recommending to his
Excellency's Consideration the Case of Felix Meigs late an Inhabitant of
that Colony, who was in the Term of July last convicted at the Supreme
Court of Judicature held in this City, for knowingly passing Counterfeit
Bills of Credit of this Province, and now lies under Sentence of Death
and intreating his Excellency to grant to the said Felix Meigs his Majesty's
Pardon, or a Reprieve — On Reading whereof, his Excellency required the
[illegible] of the Board thereupon. The Council humbly advised his Excel-

lency

Earl of Dartmouth to the Governors in America.

[New-York Papers (State Paper Office) CCLVIII.]

Circular.

Whitehall, August 14th 1772

The King having been graciously pleased to appoint me to be one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and to commit to my care the dispatch of all such business as relates to His Majesty's Colonies I take the earliest opportunity of acquainting you therewith.

It will give me great satisfaction to be able to fulfill His Majesty's gracious intentions in this appointment; and as it is His Majesty's pleasure that your dispatches should for the future be addressed to me, I shall not fail to lay them immediately before the King, and to transmit to you such orders as His Majesty shall think fit to give thereupon.

I am, &c

Dartmouth.

Governor Tryon to the Earl of Hillsborough.

[New-York Papers (S. P. O.) CLXIV.]

Nº 43.

New York. 31. August 1772.

My Lord.

I returned last week to this City after an absence of five weeks on an excursion to the Westward Frontiers of this Province. I passed some days at Sir William Johnson's, where I met near a Hundred of the Mohocks, and more than forty of the Onejda Indians. A copy of the Congress held with the Mohock Indians, I have the honor herewith to transmit to your Lordship, and have ordered copies of the Indian deeds, that were executed on the occasion, to be prepared in order to forward them to your Lordp. My best endeavours shall be employed to satisfy the Mohocks in their request to me, to do them Justice, which I hope to obtain through the aid of the Legislature, as I consider their request truly equitable. It was with real satisfaction I viewed the credit and confidence, Sir William was held in by the Indian Tribes. Nothing less than manifest injury in my opinion, will drive the Mohocks from their steady attachment to His Majesty's Interest. They appear to be actuated as a community by principles of rectitude, that would do honor to the most civilized nations. Indeed they are in a civilized state, and many of them good Farmers.

It is impossible any man can have more uniform zeal and attention than Sir William has in his Department, so much so, that it would be no great impropriety to style him the Slave of the Savages.

In my journey up the Mohocks I reviewed three Regiments; the first in Johnstown, the second at Burnet's field, and the third in the German Flatts near Fort Herkemer, amounting in the whole to upwards of fourteen hundred effective Men; an industrious people, and not less seemingly pleased with the presence of their Govr than he was with them. I heartily wish the Eastern parts of the Province were as peaceably settled. The Land on the Mohock River is extremely fertile, and under the highest cultivation, producing as good wheat and pens as any in the old Countries. The Towns of Albany and Schenectady are both flourishing, and will continue to do so, in proportion as the back settlements are extended.

I am with all possible respect
My Lord.
Your Lordps most obedient servant
Wm Tryon.

Proceedings of Sir William Johnson with the Mohawks.

[New-York Papers (S. P. O.) CLXIV.]

Proceedings at a Congress held with the Canajohare Indians at Johnson Hall on Tuesday the 28th day of July 1772.

Present—His Excelly Wm Tryon Esqre Governor ettc of N. York.
The Honble Sir Wm Johnson Bart his Majtys Superintendt
The Honble Oliver de Lancey } Esqrs of the Council.
The Honble Henry White }
Guy Johnson Esqre Depty Agent for Indian Affairs
Edmd Fanning Esqre private Secr: to his Excelly
Richd Shuckburgh Esqre Secy for Indian Affairs and several other Gentlemen.

Decarihoga Speaker stood up and addressed his Excelly the Govr, saying that they were happy to find that the great spirit above had permitted him to come in safety to their Council fire; that the Indns had ardently wished to see him, and now congratulated him on the occasion. he then proceeded as follows:

Brother. We mean to take this opportunity of laying before you the grievances under which we labour, and the ill treatment we have received from several White people, who endeavour to defraud us of our Lands; this we several times laid before his Majtys former Govrs of New York, and have waited with the utmost impatience hitherto for redress, but to no purpose. At length, our old people tired with delay, have come to a resolution of putting the business into the hands of the young Warriors, who will speak to you upon it.

Whereupon Joseph stood up and said:

Brother. We are extremely happy to see you here this day, as we have long desired it, and hope that thro' your means we shall obtain redress. We have been often deceived, and defrauded of large Tracts; but that which at present gives us most concern, is, the little Tract which surrounds us, on which we live, and of which we hear, we are now likely to be deprived. This fills us all with such concern, and is of so alarming a nature, that whether we are in our beds, or ranging the woods in quest of game, it still occurs to us, and deprives us of rest.

Brother. The reason of our having been so anxious to see your Excelly of late was from the hopes we conceived of obtaining redress through your love of Justice, and from the great

plicate
No. 43.

Fort George New York 31st Aug. 1772.

My Lord

I returned last Week to this City after an Excursion of five Weeks to the Western Frontiers of the Province. I passed some Days at Sir William Johnson's where I met near a Hundred of the Mohocks, & more than Forty of the Oneida Indians; a Copy of the Congress held with the Mohock Indians I have the Honor herewith to transmit to Your Lordship, and have ordered Copies of the Indian Deeds that were executed on the Occasion to be prepared in Order to forward them to Your Lordship. My best Endeavours shall be employed to satisfy the Mohocks in their Requests to me to do them Justice, which I hope to obtain through the Aid of the Legislature, as I consider their Requisition truly equitable. It was with real Satisfaction

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In my Journey up the Mohock R I reviewed three Regiments The first in Joh the second in Barnetts Field, & the third at t German Flatts, near Fort Herkemer; amo in the whole to upwards of fourteen Hundre effective Men. An industrious People, and v sumingly pleased with the Presence of their Governor, than he was with Them. I heartily wish the Eastern Parts of the Province were as peaceably settled. The Land on the Mohock River is extremely fertile and under the highest Cultivation, producing as good Wheat & Peas as any in the old Countries. The Towns of Albany & Schenectady are both flourishing and will continue to do so in Proportion as the back Settlements are extended.

I am, with all possible Respect,

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient Servant

Wm Tryon

Earl of Hillsborough.

From '73 to 75

To the Rev. Andrew Eliot DD. Boston
from Samuel Kirkland Missionary

Sir

I have devoted so much of my time and labor the year past, for promoting the temporal interest and accommodations of my people: — that I cannot transcribe every particular of my Journal I must beg your forbearance and rely upon the candor of my generous employers, and hope for the ensuing year you will receive due returns with every necessary intelligence. ——

For this time, pray you will accept of some general account of my deportment the year past and present State of Religion, and prospects here in the wilderness ——

October 27th — Returned to Onoide — found things well among my people. Preached a lecture the next morning; spent the remainder of the day with visitants, had very disagreeable accounts of their publick affairs, especially among the remote tribes

That they are upon the eve of a bloody war. _ _ _ _

I have preached twice, or thrice constantly upon the Sabbath since my arrival, till February was absent two Sabbaths, Went down the Country for proviſions, and visited my family at Stockbridge*

Most of the profeſsors conducted well through the winter, evidently improved in doctrinal knowledge, and some few in practical [illegible] Godlineſs, but reports of an Indian war very much soured the minds of the young Warriors, that they gave very little heed to the things of religion.

March 2d 1773. _ Set out on a Journey to Onohoghquake in company with deacon Thomas, Wirom and two more. _ _ _

My chief buſineſs was to aſsist Mr Crosby in settling some difficulties subsisting in the Church there, consult him, and prepare matters for his intended ordination, agreable to the directions of the Honorable Commiſsioners. _ _ _ _ _

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* [illegible] A Town on the Borders of the Maſsachuſetts, inhabited by English and Indians, where

The particulars of this journey will perhaps be agreable to you, and afford some specimen of the life of a Miſsionary — — —

Travell'd about twenty miles the first day, spend the evning in discourse with my Company, upon the travels of Israel through the Wilderneſs —

Wednesday 3 — The travelling very bad, the snow deep and soft, that our snow shoes grew heavy; the latter part of the day walked upon the ice, somewhat weary at night — had but indifferent lodgings for the snow and rain, afterwards cleared off very cold. — — —

Thursday — in the morning by day light, sett off, walked upon the ice till near noon, when one of the Company fell upon the ice, bruised his side and shoulder, fainted away, continued sometime speechleſs and senseleſs; We struck up a fire, — Thomas went and peiled the bark from a swamp white Oak, rubbed and wrung it out in about a quart of water, and gave the wounded man to drink —

About two hours after proceeded slowly, upon this misfortune was obliged ta carry the sick mans pack, which fatigued me much

Just before night arrived at an Indian village called, Honekdawahton chiefly Tuscarorons, there loged. NB this village is ~~suppo~~ said to be 60 Miles from Conoide.

5th Set out betimes, and marched very fast, till about 4 O Clock P M when I began to fail, my feet & Legs being much swollen the night before and our travelling stock of provision almost exhausted however soon reached the place called Yuneandellu took a little parched corn and Indian Bread and proceeded for Kanaghsondyea ~~to~~ a smalle Town about 15 miles this side Onohoghgwake.
arrived a Konoghrodyea about 10 O Clock at night.

Saturday 6th. — a little after noon reached Onohghgwake was kindly received by Mr Crosby and his people, who assembled towards evning to congratulate my arrival —

7th Lords day, preached to a considerable number, from 1st Peter, 4th 18th — If the righteous scarcely be saved &c
My feet & Legs were so swollen it was with difficulty I got to the meeting House

In the evening met with the head men of the and others, delivered my message and directions from the Honorable Commissioners, respecting Mr Crosby's ordination &c. Which was thankfully received.

Sang an hymn, prayed with them, and dismissed them about midnight ~~night~~

Monday 8th Last evening the Man who fell on the ice was taken very ill, sent for me about day light to bleed him.

Spent most of the day in conversation with a number of their principal men upon religious matters, they were much affected and still more surprised with my discourses upon the divine Law, repentance, regeneration, faith, and baptism, they desired a conference the next day.

Tuesday 9th Most of the Town met at Mr Crosby's, conferred with them most of the day upon the important doctrines which were the subject of Yesterdays ~~discourse~~ conversation.

They in general good #Peter excepted had conceived a notion that an external good behavior, with learning the decalogue

---

An Indian who hath long been distinguished for his Piety & good sense

So as to repeat it without Book; was all the divine law intended or required, and that such a sort of obedience entituled to "eternal life" —— They never once suspected that Jesus Christ came into the world to maintain the divine Authority," and declare Gods righteouſneſs," but solely to pay for their Sins (as they expreſsed it) and render God propitious ——

It seemed they had no other idea of repentance, than mere oral confeſsion, that baptism or mere external sprinkling was all the regeneration held forth in the Scriptures, and absolutely entituled to "eternal life", especially if the baptized person dies in infancy: Moreover that a feast was an eſsential part of the ordinance, and they accordingly practice feasting at baptisms, and for the most part dance and frolic the whole night. Even their and communicants, not only grace the feast with their presence but bear a part in the songs, and walk in the dance ——

I confeſs I was aſtonished, and grieved to the heart to find such inexcusable ignorance, and abominable infidelity, among them ——

Mr Crosby, by the knowledge he has acquired of their language and observing their ~~external~~ conduct began to make the malencholy discovery before my arrival, which grieved him much ------

The Indians related some former instructions received from a Dutch Minister in Schoharry relative to repentance, ~~and~~ which are too rediculous to mention ------

I conceive the Indians have labor'd under great disadvantages on religious accounts for want of a~~n~~ skillfull Interpreter, as they observed, that they never before had a minister address them in their own dialect, without the help of an Interpreter, which might be one reason why they remained so shamefully ignorant of divine things ---

Deacon Thomas spoke about half an hour with great judgment and pathos, upon those important Doctrines, and their late views of them at Onoide -- "Good Peter replied, time was when we could instruct you Onoides; but now the scale is turned, and we are glad to open our ears to your instructions. We hope, however by the mercy of God to be under equal advantages with you; for our present Father pointing to Mr Crosby begins to whisper to us the things of God in our own language, and with great propriety."

NB We opened and closed the meeting ~~[illegible]~~ with prayer & a hymn

In the Evening attended a Singing Meeting — — — — —

Wedy 10th — Two of their chiefs, Adam Koo and Isaac came in to talk together with me upon the forementioned doctrines, and and the state of Religion in the Town, Sat about five hours with them till my strength was almost exhausted, after these two had withdrawn came several others — NB This Morning* Wirom set out for Onoide to inform of our state — — — —

Thursday 11th Visited several houses, In the evining conversed awhile with Adam their chief, and then attended a Singing meeting — —

Friday 12th Another meeting with their head Men, and a Tuscarora chief from about 3 miles south of this place — —

Sat 13 — Spent most of the day with a considerable number in trying to reconcile matters of difference between Peter and Isaac, and proposed Peter's speaking in publick, and acting sometimes as an interpreter for —

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* An Indian Catechist young at present but promises to be a great blessing

Mr Crosby till he should acquire the language more perfectly.

14th Lords Day. Preached to a very serious and attentive assembly about 3 hours in the whole exercise. Baptized two children —

After meeting came in a number who expressed great satisfaction and thankfullness for the good word of exhortation — — —

In the evening attended a singing Meeting, with a short exhortation afterwards discoursed with #Isaac upon the difficulties subsisting between him & good Peter, and farther to know his objections agt. Peters speaking in Public — About midnight accommodated matters beyond expectation. "Blessed be God who hath the hearts of all Men in his hands" — We now go to Peter and acquaint him with the result of our ~~[illegible]~~ interview with Isaac, he was quite overcome with the unexpected revolution, and broke out ~~with~~ in a kind of
Rapture with a peculiar emphasis "rasatste ne Rawenniyoh", "God is mighty"

We conversed to our mutual joy till about two in the morning & then retired —

# A speaker among the Indians who frequently officiates in their religious meetings but vain and conceited —

Monday 15th Agreed to attend Ordination July first

The Indians returns thanks to the Honorable Commiſsioners for the continuance of their patronage, and sending them a Miſsionary, who appeared to have the spiritual Interest of the Indians so much at heart

Most of the forenoon spent in taking leave of the People who expreſsed great Joy and returned many thanks for my visit, and the instructions I had given them

About noon sang a hymn, prayed with them, and departed, Mr Croſby accompanied me about five miles & returned

Friday 19th About midnight arrived at Onoide, travelled near fifty miles the last day, being short of Proviſions and very desirous to get home

Lords day 21st Preached but once, was so fatigued with my Journey, I could scarcely walk

This week convened at Onondage (about 40 miles west of this) about two hundred Sachems & Warriors, of the five Nations have done inexpressible hurt to the Interest of Religion among the lower tribes by getting away their lands, and made the other tribes extremely jealous]

The Onoides immediately took the matter under consideration and offered the Mohawks a settlement any where they should ~~to~~ ~~gave~~ chuse within six or seven miles of this place, or old Onoide —

Upon this turn of affairs the Onoides were much concerned about building the meeting house, as by reason of my being absent when they cut and hewed the timber it fell short both in length and size from what they intended; they began to be discouraged, finding themselves so unequal to the business, begged my assistance that a decent house might be erected, and it would command the attention of the Indians far & near — — — — —

I accordingly assisted them in preparing suitable timber and rode an hundred miles for a good Carpenter —

June 3d Raised the house to the great joy of the Indians to know the grounds of uneasiness among the Senekas, and other remote tribes with which they were connected.

The grand Council held about three weeks and to all appearance matters were settled to the Joy of many, though to the disappointment of some who were thirsting after blood, and in high expectation of a war

Now my people begin to hope for a day of peace and the the sun shine of prosperity to the Gospel of Jesus; the number of my hearers soon encreased, and my people went on in collecting materials for the meeting house, which had lien by for some time on account of the dark & threatening state of their publick affairs

In the month of ~~august~~ April the Mohawks send a petition to the Oneides, desiring they would give them quarter some-where in their vicinity, as their lands were all claimed by the white People, even the village where they resided, the very Ground under their feet, as they expressed it, and that they were determined to move off and quit the Country of their Brethren the Oneide's did not receive them. 13 [redacted]

We rais'd the house a ſide at a time, No other help but Indian except the Carpenter & his two Men - - - - - - -

The whole Town with a number from adjacent villages of both Men and Women aſsembled in the morning we sang an hymn prayed, and then proceeded to the work. One of the Sachems exhorted the old women who knew the way to the throne of grace, to pray earnestly to God that he would encourage them ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ & ſtrengthen them ~~[illegible]~~ the Men for the work (as the timber was very heavy) and carry them through & then accept of the house for himself - - - -

The whole affair was conducted with great decency & indeed solemnity Not one either Man or Woman was in the least disguised with ſtrong drink, nor asked for any more than was given - - - -

NB - The Indians have an insatiable thirst for strong drink, but there is a considerable number at Oneida who totally abstain; it is rare to see an Indian drunk there - a happy effect of Mr Kirklands ministry - - - - - -

The dimensions of the house, are 36 by 28 - 18 feet post planned for a Gallery at one end - five windows ~~24~~ 24 lights each, 8 by 10 - four windows, of 15 lights each 7 by 9 - two doors - - - -

Mr Crosby's ordination was attended the first of July a Cherry valley a Dutch ſettlement on the borders of the Indian Country

Between fifty & sixty Indians present some of every tribe in the six nations except the Cayogues, — I prevented nigh 100 more who were desirous ~~of~~ to attend thro fear of augmenting the expence —

The Indians conducted with great decency to the surprise of the white people, and appeared much affected with the solemn transactions of the day — — — If the Honorable Commiſsioners have received the plain faithfull account of Mr Crosby's ordination, drawn up by the Revd Mr Saml Dunlop who aſsisted a more particular one from me will be needleſs — — — — —

I need only observe the Indians returned thanks to the Ministers who aſsisted in setting apart Mr Crosby to the Gospell ministry with a special reference to instructing them, and expreſsed many thanks to the honorable Comiſsioners whose patience yet held out after repeated disappointments, and had sent them a Man who is disposed to deny himself and forsake the good things & of this Life for the Souls of the poor Indians, Were glad that they were allowed to be spectators of the solemnity, and observed that they never before had any idea of the weight and importance of the ministerial office —

I have observed the Indians under my care generally improve in doctrinal knowledge, but conversions are not multiplied. Vital practical Godliness is rare among us. the latter part of spring and beginning of summer, a divine power seemed to accompany the word, we had many solemn assemblys, a considerable number appeared under soul concern, but in time of temptation they fall away — — — Several of the professors are under censure one only appears incorrigible, and threatens excommunication.

The contentions and disputes that perplexed us last year have subsided, but it evidently appears that the five nations are tinged more or less with papistical notions, and have a peculiar relish for the Roman Catholic Religion.

A chief of the Senecca tribe lately made me a visit; tarried some time, appeared well pleased & much affected with the solemnity of public worship. He was very earnest & critical in his enquires into the nature and foundation of the christian Religion; At length invited me to visit my old quarters, and told me that several families with his, were desirous of instruction & would open their doors to me —

Deacon Thomas intends making the Seneca's a visit this fall, and know how they stand, affected towards the Gospell, and make a short tryal among them. If the Indians continue peaceable (I hope in God) a door may soon be opened even among that savage tribe. — — — — — — — —

Kanonwarohare Augst 30th 1773

I have omitted catechizing publickly on the Sabbath, since the old meeting house was taken down till a few sabbaths past; have revived them
The Indian school has not been kept ~~up~~ for nigh two months, for want of a convenient house. There are now upward of forty that can read Tolerably well in their own language —

Last winter and spring I translated a little more of the Bible into Indian. but have had but very little time to attend to business, have labored forty days on the meeting house, besides overseeing and taking the whole care —
I do not ~~remember~~ mention this as if I expected or desired any reward, but to shew how my time has been employed — ~~Have~~ attended my people into their fields, to instruct them in their husbandry, am encouraged ~~[illegible]~~ to ~~think~~ hope some few of them will in time make Oconomists, at least Indian ones, altho it is not easy task to inspire an Indian with a notion of industry & frugality They are now much engaged for better accommodations, will probably erect and finish eight or nine dwelling houses this season — I have furnished them with a number of Carpenters tools and they have made such proficiency (by the instruction of the Carpenter who framed the meeting house) that with a little assistance they are able to finish a house, ~~[illegible]~~ — Erecting the meeting house, with the improvements my have made this year, have gained the attention of their neighbours more than any thing that ever happened among ~~to~~ them. I understand many of the upper Nations begin now to think the Onoida's will come to something —

ADDRESSED:

To
The Honorable
Sir William Johnson Bar^{t}.
Johnson Hall

INDORSED:[3]

[ ]
7^{br}. 8th. 1772

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[3] In Sir William's hand.

FROM THOMAS GAGE

Contemporary Copy[1]

New York October 7th. 1772.

DEAR SIR

I thank you for your Letter of Sept^{r}. 2^{d}.[2] and wish the Six Nation Deputy's had succeeded better in their Embassy. I was absent some days after your Letter arrived, and soon after I received it, Kayashuta[3] came here from Fort Pitt, he said his reason for taking this Road was to tell the Governors and myself the true situation of Affairs. what he told the Governors I dont know, but all he said to me was, that every thing was quiet and peaceable. he brought a Letter from Major Hamilton who writes that you had sometime been very desirous to see him, and I suppose him by this time with you.

The last Packet brings News of much Altercation, in which Indians and Indian Lands are subjects that have been pretty largely treated. It is asserted as a general Principle that the Six Nations having conquered such and such Nations, their Territorys belong to them, and the Six Nations being the Kings Subjects which by treaty they have acknowledged themselves to be, those Lands belong to the King. I believe it is for our Interest to lay down such principles especially when we were squabbling with the French about Territory, and they played us of in the same stile of their Indian Subjects, and the right of those Indians. I never heard that Indians made War for the sake of Territory like Europeans, but that Revenge, and an eager pursuit of Martial reputation were the Motives which prompted one Nation to make War upon another. If we are to search for truth and examine her to the Bottom, I dont imagine we shall find that any conquered Nation ever formaly ceded their Country to their Conquerors, or that the latter ever required it, I never could learn more, than that Nations have yielded, and acknowledged themselves subjected to others, and some ever have wore Badges of Subjection. As for the Six Nations having acknowledged themselves Subjects of the English, that I conclude must be a very gross Mistake and am well satisfied were they told so, they would not be well pleased. I know I would not venture to treat them as Subjects, unless there was a Resolution to make War upon them, which is not very likely to happen, but I believe they would on such an attempt, very soon resolve to cut our Throats.

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[1] In William L. Clements Library.

[2] *Johnson Papers,* 8:586-88.

[3] Chief of the Mingoes, or Ohio Senecas.

I am with great Regard
Dear Sir

S^R^. W^M^. JOHNSON Bar^t^. &c^a^.

INDORSED:

Copy —
To
Sir William Johnson Bar^t^.
Johnson Hall
New York October 7^th^. 1772

that expense will come out of the pocket of the Chief Justice whenever he goes a circuit.

I think it will be some satisfaction to your lordship to know that I am informed on inquiry the importation and demand for British goods is very great at present into all the colonies and that the projects for establishing manufactories are almost at an end and hardly mentioned but to be laughed at. *Signed.* [C.O.5/991, fo. 149]

CIV

Lieut.-General Thomas Gage to Earl of Hillsborough (*No.* 77)

7 October, New York

My Lord, I have received your lordship's letters Nos. 56 and 57 [Vol. IV, Nos. 543 and 544] with copies of letters from your lordship to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty and to the Governor and Company of Rhode Island relative to the burning of the *Gaspee* schooner in Providence River and other irregularities and insults to the King's authority in that colony.

I shall duly observe His Majesty's commands to me to furnish Rear-Admiral Montagu with such sums as he demands in consequence of the reward offered by government for the discovery and prosecution to conviction of the persons concerned in the destruction of the *Gaspee,* and I will immediately appoint Captain John Philips fort-major of Castle William and pay him the salary allowed by the King from the time that his former command ceased.

Governor Hutchinson has lately written to me on the subject of Captain Philips and observes that it is farther necessary to appoint two more quarter-gunners at Castle William to watch the vessels as they pass up and down, the duty being too hard for the two employed on that service. This would be an increase of the establishment of Castle William which I should not imagine at present needful while so many centinels are upon watch night and day and ready to give notice on the appearance of any vessels to the gunners who have only to keep within call and be ready to hail and examine them.

The two battalions of the Royal American Regiment will embark as soon as the transports arrive, and your lordship having ordered them to New York answers very well to the situation of both the battalions. One of them will be put on board at New York, the other lower down at Amboy on the Jersey shore.

I am to acquaint your lordship that soon after my last dispatch orders were sent to Fort Pitt for the troops in garrison to evacuate that fort and march to Philadelphia, first destroying its defences and rendering it of no use as a fortress, and also directions to send away the brass artillery with every species of military stores that by the calculations made will bear the expense of transporting to Philadelphia, to destroy the iron guns, carriages, shot etc. and to sell other articles to the traders. The best of the buildings are offered to the Indian officers if they choose to dwell in them and take care of the boats, for which there may be use, and a file of men will be left to assist them. I have not yet received answers to my letters but hope the work is in forwardness and that it will be completed in time as endeavours have been used to procure a sufficient number of carriages; the failure in which article can alone prevent its execution before winter.

The Six Nation deputies are at length returned from Sioto without success. The nations they were deputed to refused to meet them and they were constrained to leave their belts with the Shawnese who are strongly suspected of duplicity. They have given information since their return of numbers of belts sent far and near to engage the nations to enter into a scheme of a general peace and strict union, which Sir William Johnson judges is intended only amongst themselves and that it forebodes no good to us. We may suppose those proceedings to be in consequence of the plan adopted of forming a general confederacy of the southern and western tribes, of which so much has been said for these two years past; but more certain information is expected from a general meeting appointed to be held to the southward in autumn. This news is partly confirmed from Carolina where the Cherokees have made known their intentions to conclude a peace with the northern and western nations, and Mr Stuart reports farther that the Creeks entertained thoughts of commencing war against us on account of lands claimed by them which the Cherokees have given to some of our traders in payment of debts they had contracted.

It is apparent that the Indians in general grow daily more jealous as the settlers extend themselves into their country. They say that as the white people have advanced from the coast the original natives have been destroyed, and of the numerous nations which formerly inhabited the country possessed by the English not one is now existing, that we are drawing nearer and nearer to them and they see it must be soon their turn also to be exterminated. These are truths too manifest to be contradicted, and I have little doubt that it is from their inability alone to carry on a war that they don't all unite against us. They see and dread our power and that it is from the English only they can now draw conveniently the articles they are in need of and all that is necessary either for war or hunting.

An Indian interpreter was here a few days past from the Ohio, who saw thirty or forty people seated on the banks of that river on the lands ceded by the Six Nations, and on whose approach some Indians in the neighbourhood abandoned their dwellings and removed. Many of those people were half-naked, chiefly covered with loose, coarse linen frocks such as the frontier people manufacture for themselves and paint or colour with bark, and they differ little from Indians in their manner of life. They have no means to purchase clothing but by skins, and that induces them to hunt and consequently to intrude on the Indian hunting grounds, which is often productive of quarrels and murthers. It appears by letters from Pensacola that several of those strollers have got down the Mississippi from Virginia and Carolina and that more is expected, but they complain the Indians disturb them in their passage. And Mr Stuart's letters inform that seven Virginians and a Negro were killed by a party of Cherokees near the confluence of the Ohio with the Mississippi, who it may be supposed were emigrating to join those gone before them. The leader of the Cherokee party excused himself to his nation by pretending that he took them to be Frenchmen, but he has ever been our professed enemy and the murthers have been committed so wantonly that it is proper to demand satisfaction to put a stop to their killing people at their pleasure. The nation refused the scalps brought by the party and reprimanded the leader, so it's to be hoped they will listen to the complaint and punish the murtherers.

It's reported that some of the strollers have already passed the boundary fixed with the Indians, on which subject Mr Stuart has written to Lord Dunmore, and I suppose it to be the line settled with the Cherokees; and he complains that he cannot get the limits confirmed by laws rendering it penal to settle beyond them. I believe laws of the kind have at times been made in some of the provinces but I never could learn that they were of much use. *Signed.* [C.O.5/90, fo. 77]

[illegible]

Governor Thomas Hutchinson to Earl of Dartmouth (No. 1, Duplicate)

23 October, Boston

My Lord, I have the honour of your lordship's letter No. 1 [above, No. XCII] dated September the 2nd. I am very glad that my message to the House of Representatives in answer to their resolves meets with your lordship's approbation, and when the arguments they urge have been more fully considered by your lordship I hope to receive your further opinion upon them.

I will so far make known what your lordship writes upon the subject of the province-house as shall be necessary for the government of the House of Representatives when I meet them again, which I intend to do sometime in the month of January, and will also acquaint the Council with His Majesty's approbation of their conduct.

In my letter to the Earl of Hillsborough, No. 33 [above, No. LXXVI], your lordship will have a more circumstantial state of the case of Hinsdale and the other townships originally granted by this government and now within the province of New York, and I doubt not the papers which accompanied that letter will confirm your lordship in the favourable opinion you had conceived of the claims of the inhabitants of those towns.

The state of the Eastern Country becomes every day more serious and important from the rapid increase of the inhabitants there. Your lordship is pleased to require me to report to you as fully as possible the state of that country. I will enclose a very full state [Vol. IV, No. 706i] as drawn by me at the desire of the General Court when it was claimed in 1763 by persons under a pretended grant to the first Earl of Stirling. I know of nothing there alleged but what can be fully supported. I have added in manuscript the state since the grant made to this province, and from accounts which I receive from the Secretary Mr Flucker who is just now come to town from that part of the province, I have reason to think I have fallen considerably short in estimating the number of families settled there. Any measures which your lordship may propose to make the interest of the kingdom and the right of the province there coincide I will endeavour to promote to the utmost of my power but they become every day more difficult to accomplish. Every new measure is made subservient to the general views of the present leaders of the people to promote discontent and rekindle a flame among them; and let the measure be ever so constitutional, if it be new the common people are easily made to believe that which the Assembly is prorogued I shall lay the Speaker's behaviour and the unparliamentary proceedings of the House before His Majesty's Council for their opinion. For I think it at least imprudent to allow that Commons House to exist whose Speaker withholds their journals from me, and who after having my commands refuse to pay a parliamentary obedience to them. And I shall be the easier induced to dissolve this House as they had read the Tax Bill twice in as obnoxious a form as ever. And your lordship knows, if no material alteration in a bill is made at the second reading, it is scarce to be looked for at a third.

It is needless for me to make any particular observations on the inconsistency or querulous nature of the resolves, or the violent attack which they seem to make upon the King's prerogative, which although they say has never been disputed they do now most absolutely dispute, judge of, and condemn in the harshest terms. For as from your lordship's knowledge of what is the King's prerogative and what is parliamentary, you must be already possessed of all that I can say upon the subject and be fully aware how dangerous it is to allow Houses of Assembly to proceed as it were daily in altering the usage of parliament, thereby shaking the power of the King in the most alarming manner and changing the very nature of the constitution. For here are three innovations made by the Commons: a disposal of the public money of their sole authority, the grand subject in dispute for three years past, and which they still persist in; their proceeding upon business after being summoned to attend the governor; and the committee of correspondence continuing to act as a committee even after a prorogation. For your lordship will see by the journals that they had not time to write to their agent in pursuance of the order of the House before the prorogation took place, and to my knowledge from the information of the Clerk of the House they have since met and sat as a committee to put a letter in such a state as to be sent to the agent, which as it was not done before the prorogation certainly could not be constitutionally done after a prorogation, which must annihilate all committees. As you will hear of the letter from the agent, it will be the fullest proof that a letter is wrote; and the journals will prove that a letter could not be wrote between the order for it and the prorogation.

For my motives and reasons for calling the Assembly to Beaufort I beg leave to refer you to a letter [above No. XCIX] I wrote to Lord Hillsborough in the fullest manner on that subject. *Signed.* [C.O.5/394, fo. 179]

CXIII

Sir William Johnson to Earl of Dartmouth (No. 2)

4 November, Johnson Hall

My Lord, I have had the honour to receive your lordship's letter [Vol. IV, No. 611] of the 2nd of September with the enclosures acquainting me with His Majesty's royal intentions respecting the government on the Ohio and directing that I should signify the same to the Six Nations, which I had an immediate opportunity of doing as I shall show your lordship presently.

My last letter to the Earl of Hillsborough was No. 18 [Vol. IV, No. 436] of the 29th June on which (as I presume it is in your hands) I need not to add more than to remind your lordship that I therein gave an account of the departure of the Six Nation deputies for the second great congress at Sioto and of the murder of eight Mississagaes and Chippawaes by one Ramsay, a small trader on Lake Erie, in which he appeared to have been actuated by wanton cruelty more than by any other consideration. Since that letter I received an account that the conferences to the southward were ended, and about a fortnight since the chiefs and principal warriors of the Six Nations came to this place where they held a congress and related the transactions of their deputies, a copy [*Marginal Note*: not received] of the most material parts whereof I have now the honour to transmit to your lordship. The sum of what they said was that as the Waubash Indians, Kicapous and Piankasshaws, notwithstanding they waited for them a considerable time, did not attend the congress at Sioto by reason or under pretence that some of their people had last year been killed by a party of Six Nations and Cherokees. The deputies laid their belts and messages before those present, reprimanding those concerned with their past misconduct and charging them with what they had to say to those absent, which they promised faithfully to deliver. The deputies likewise demanded those mischievous belts etc. which had been circulating and particularly those said to have gone from Agaustarax, a Seneca chief of great influence, but without the knowledge of the rest of the Six Nation confederacy. The Indians there accordingly directed all the adjoining nations to collect all such belts as were liable to suspicion, on which several belts were brought in and delivered to the deputies, some of which came from the west side of Mississippi containing assurances of assistance and advising all nations to rise against the English; but the belts from Agaustarax were not in the hands of any there present, having been stopped by the Cherokees. However, the deputies were assured that they should be collected and that the chiefs of all the nations there, absent as well as present, should shortly bring them and attend a general congress at Onondaga where they would hear the sense of all the Six Nations and ratify all proceedings. The belts beforementioned were delivered up to me by the deputies, and one of them which is one of the largest I have seen is evidently a French belt, and by what I can find came from Monsr. St Ange on the Mississippi in the name of the French King, which St Ange was an active commander under the French and is now, I am of opinion, a secret agent to heighten the prejudices of the Indians and prepare them for cooperating with the enemy in case of a war.

As these Indians, however, have not fulfilled their promise in coming to the grand fireplace (as it is called) at Onondaga within the time limited, I spoke warmly to the whole confederacy charging them to see that these people attended without farther delay or that these remaining belts were immediately delivered into my hands, which the Six Nations have promised to see performed, as well as that at the proposed congress they will convince all nations of their fidelity to us and their resolutions to compel the rest to act in the same manner as a proof that they, the Six Nations, have no part in their designs.

They next represented the great irregularities in the present state of the Indian trade, the promises made to them that the same should be put on a good footing, the want of regulations therein, the abuses committed by traders rambling where they pleased with strong liquors, and the general discontent amongst all the nations on that account. To which I made them the best answer I could considering the little prospect there is of any such regulations being made in the colonies. Just before their departure I was honoured with your lordship's second letter and accordingly communicated to them His Majesty's intentions respecting the establishment of a government on the Ohio, which I observed would rather be attended with advantages to them and to their allies than the contrary, that it was in consequence of their public sale at the greatest congress ever held and thereafter it was their duty to support their just rights and remove any evil impressions which a few weak people, their dependants, had conceived thereon, to all which they made suitable answers.

I likewise advised them to withdraw the Senecas of Ohio from thence and settle them nearer their natural friends, as at present by their connections with others they bring disgrace and suspicion on their own confederacy, and this I was the readier induced to do as Kayashota the chief of those on Ohio, a man of universal influence, was present and had privately assured me that it was agreeable to him.

I shall now, my lord, beg leave to offer my thoughts on some of the foregoing particulars in as few words as possible. And, first, with regard to the new government I have the strongest reasons to believe that the Six Nations are disposed to consider it in a favourable light and that the tribes who since the cession have appeared otherwise have no just pretension or title there. At the same time I should remark that as all Indians are naturally jealous of their liberties and extremely suspicious of our designs, and as the reduction of Canada, the imprudence of our own people since that event, and the artifices of our secret enemies, all contribute to increase these sentiments in the Indians, it is not at all surprising if many amongst them particularly to the southward should, although they accorded to the cession, be alarmed at any uncommon increase of settlements in the back-country. All which, whatever else may have been surmised, must be attributed to this cause following: they discover that the back inhabitants, particularly those who daily go over the mountains of Virginia, employ much of their time in hunting, interfere with them therein, have a hatred for, ill-treat, rob and frequently murder the Indians, that they are in general a lawless set of people as fond of independency as themselves, and more regardless of government, owing to ignorance, prejudice, democratical principles and their remote situation. The Indians likewise perceive and frequently observe that our governments are weak and impotent, that whatever these people do their juries will acquit them, the landed men protect or a rabble rescue them from the hands of justice, the truth of all which I am equally sensible of. The Indians are therefore certain that they will be troublesome neighbours and that they can expect no redress from them. These are material considerations which principally induced me to extend the purchase a little farther down the Ohio, the Indians being willing to sell it, but more especially as I knew that at that time these frontier people were daily pushing into that fertile country and would continue to do so without any title whatsoever (a circumstance they little regard) and that the colonies would not or could not prevent them. This would have been such a disgrace to government that I judged it most politic to purchase it for His Majesty than farther to discover our weakness to the Indians by admitting their title to lands which were daily settling without any title at all and contrary to His Majesty's orders; but as matters now stand, a proper authority in the hands of the governor of that new colony with a judicious management at the beginning, joined to the assistance which I shall give by myself and my deputy in that country, may I am hopeful obviate the difficulties that at first occur. But should some differences at first arise from the jealous disposition of Indians or any of the causes beforementioned, the establishment of a government there will in the end prove a prudential measure, and in proportion to its powers appear to the Indians as the most necessary check that could have been given to the unrestrained licentiousness which prevailed long before the cession, was daily gathering strength, and would have done so had no purchase ever been made in that country.

The proper regulation of trade at certain fixed places there is a material consideration, and indeed the neglect of the colonies since it has been left to them, the vast cargoes of rum carried into the Indian country and the unrestrained conduct of the traders, has occasioned much dissatisfaction and is likely to produce very bad consequences, whilst the ideas of economy which prevail in America and the different interests of the colonies afford very little hopes of any accordation of sentiments that might be productive of any salutary establishments. The common traders or factors who are generally rapacious, ignorant and without principle, pretending to their merchants that they cannot make good returns unless they are at liberty to go where and do as they please, and present extravagant gain being too much the object and the only object of all, they are tempted in pursuit of it to venture amongst the most distant nations where they are daily guilty of the most glaring impositions. Of the fatal effects of rum (so often requested by the Indians not to be brought amongst them) I have just received a fresh instance in the murder of a trader and his two servants on Lake Huron by some of the nation whose people were killed by Ramsay. The trader sold them rum and neglecting to leave them, though advised by themselves to do so, on being refused more liquor they seized it, got intoxicated, a squabble ensued which ended in the death of the trader and his servants. The nation have promised to deliver the murderers but I doubt it, much as the murders committed by Ramsay cannot be easily forgotten by them, especially when disguised with liquor which they always consider as a mitigation of the offence.

As I expect to have the honour to write your lordship soon on the subjects proposed to the Six Nations I have only at present to request that your lordship will honour me with His Majesty's commands touching any part of this letter that may require it and that you will pardon its immoderate length as my zeal would not permit me to abridge a subject which appeared to me of some importance. *Signed.* [C.O.5/74, fo. 5]

C[illegible]V

Commissioners for Trade and Plantations to the King

9 November, Whitehall

May it please Your Majesty, in obedience to your Majesty's commands signified to us by the Earl of Hillsborough, late one of your Majesty's

TO THOMAS GAGE

Df.[1]

[*Johnson Hall Nov*^{r}. *18*th. *1772*]

To the H[ ]

[I have been favored with your letter of the 7th Ult^{o}., and 8th. of this Ins^{t}., and am now to acquaint You with the result of the Congress lately held here.— [2]]

The first thing Intro[duced by the Six Nations was a particular] Account of the proceedings of their Deputies [at Sioto] They Say that as the Ouabache Ind^{s} &ca did not [attend 'tho] waited for a Considerable time, & as their Negligence [was] attributed to their having lost some People in a Skirmish [with] a party of 6 Nations & Cherokees last Spring. The [Deputies] laid their Belts &c before those who attended charging them Severely with their past Conduct & directing them to Communicate the Whole to the Absent Tribes which they faithfully promised to perform, The Deputies also demanded those mischievous belts so often Spoken of & particularly those said to have been Sent from Agaustarax the Seneca Chief, on which all the neighbouring Nations collected & delivered up sev^{l}. to the Deputies, but those from Agaustarax were not in the number having been Stopped in their progress by the Cherokees, however the Depy^{s}. received Assurances that they should be Collected & that all the Chiefs present as well as those of the Absent Tribes would bring them to a Gen^{l} Congress at Onondaga, where they w^{d}. ratify all Transactions in the presence of the 6 Nations. The Deputies then delivered to me the Bad belts they had Collected one of which is as large as any I have ever seen, & at the first View convinced me of its being French. It appears to have been Sent by Mons^{r} S^{t}. Ange, to stir them up, & was accompanied by a large [black one, or Hatchet Belt with four more which came from Missisipi.—The time for these Indians attendance at Onondaga according to promise being then expired, I spoke pritty warmly to the Confederacy, advised them not to be imposed upon, but to see that these Nations imediately attended or that the remaining Belts were delivered into my Hands without farther delay, as an Instance of the veracity and fidelity of the Six Nations, all which they have promised to pay due regard to.—They then complained] much of the abuses in the Indian [Trade & the total] want of any regulations; That the Traders [now made] it a gen^{l}. practice to follow every Hunting party [wth. Cargoes] of Liquor which could not fail bringing on the [most fatal] Consequences as they assured me it was universally complained of by all the Nations, to this I made them the best [answer] in my power considering the little prospect there is of any such regulations.

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[1] In handwriting of Guy Johnson.

[2] Lines burned off.

Just before the departure of the Indians, I rec^{d} Letters from Lord Dartmouth, one of which contained the King's Order in Council, with his Majestys Commands that [I should] signify his Intentions to the 6 Nations on the Ohio or [Government,] which I took that opportunity of doing in the best manner I could & received a very Satisfactory Answer. Your own observations on that Subject in your Letter of the 7th Ult^{o} are so Judicious, & in general so agreable to Mine, that I cannot help Expressing my Satisfaction at our accordation of Sentiments on that and many other Subjects. The truth is the 6 Nations never acknowledged themselves our Subjects according to the natural Sense of the Word; the Treatys often [quoted] on these occasions according to the intentions of the Indians [only] put themselves & Certain parts of their possessions under our protection, to prevent our people from settling thereon without [their] consent; so that however the contrary has appeared [in Manifesto's our Right depends on purchase, The Question then is, whether they have a right to Sell those Lands, on which You have expressed y^{e}. General Ideas of the Indians very Justly, however with regard to the lands on Ohio, this much must be said that long before any public declaration of our Claims of Territory from Their Subjection, these Lands were considered as the property of the Six Nations, who had conquered all, and actually extirpated Several of the Tribes there, placing the Shawanese Delawares &ca. on bare Toleration in their Stead, as sort of Frontier Dependants, the worst] circumstance is that their People have [of late become more] powerfull by alliances & the 6 Nations less, so that their [Authority begins to be] disputed at a distance, however it may be Expedient [rather to] Support their Authority than encourage the Title of [People, who] of late form such dangerous Alliances, & again as the People [from] the back parts of Pennsylvania & Virginia have for some years past been continually going over the Mountains & are now as Considerable as they are lawless the Indians themselves must in a little time be Sensible that it is better the Settlers sinse they are there shod. be under some than under no Government as at present they can neither be restrained from settling or brought to punishment tho' guilty of many irregularities towards the Indians as well as others. No less than 500 of them having lately come to Bedford with design to carry an Election, but if the Powers of the new Government are impotent, The Case will not be mended. You have doubtless received Major Bassetts acct. of the Murder of Pond the Trader & his Servt. I am well Assured by a Mercht. at Albany[1] that he was a Wild quarrelsome Man, & it appears that the Inds. advised him to leave them [*when they began to drink*] (which the Ottawas often do when they begin to drink) Upon the whole I believe that Ramsays affair Joined to their own unwillingness will prevent them from delivering up the Murderers, or the goods which it is not probable were burned, however should these persons be delivered up Major Basset is desirous I shd. acqt. him what step he shod take with the Indians, on which Subject I shall be glad of your Opinion for really all Circumstances considered it is a nice affair —

I guessed that from the genl. sentiments of Juries, the Case wd. go against Mr. Roberts, & had anyone from me attended it w^d^. most probably have been the same, and the powers of Government farther weakened in the Eyes of the Public. M^r^. Wetherhead thinks that some Satisfaction might be obtained in Chancery, if there was a good prospect of this, I think it Should be pursued, because Success therein would be of some use to Government.— My Orders to M^r^. Roberts were general to prevent to the utmost of his power, the carrying out Liquors beyond the Post; which, with your kind Assistance & direction as to the manner of applying to Government I would readily represent: the main part of Roberts' conduct therein being agreable to Instruction, & to Sound policy at that Post.—

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[1] The manuscript letter reads: "by those who knew him."

I had much conversation with Kayashota & advised him & the 6 Nations, to withdraw their People from Ohio where they engaged in Interests foreign to, & often brought [reflections] on the Confederacy, of all which he & they appeared very sensible

The Certificates I mentioned were to people [employed] in carrying up Presents, provisions &c for the Gen^l^. Treaty at Fort Stanwix, some of them were paid by the Q^r^. Master Gen^l^. & he then promised M^r^ Butler to Settle the whole, which he since declined doing. [I have paid everry thing of that kind myself Since you Issued a Proclamation for that Purpose in February, 1769.—][1]

My Son Sir John going to pass some time in New York will have the pleasure of delivering you this, he is accompanied by my 2 Granddaughters who are to be sent to the Boarding School.

[His Excellency] L^T^ GEN^L^ GAGE.

INDORSED:

Nov^r^. 18^th^. 1772
To Gen^l^. Gage
on the Congress with the
6 Nations &c

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[1] This and other burned sections of the draft have been supplied from the manuscript letter in William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Catharine Hansen by her son Dirk Hansen for the Ferry until January next for £33, and they the said Lotteridge & Hansen are to deliver the Dock in good repair as they are now. This being read to them to which they content.

At a Common Council held for the City of Albany at the City Hall of the said City on Tuesday the 2d day of Jan^y, 1773.

Resolved by this Board that the Clerk draw orders on the Treasurer to pay the following Accounts, viz:

Je^r Van Renselaer for	£19:15:7½	James Marr	£5: 0:0
Nicholas Merselis for	2: 2:0	Philip Elsworth for	7: 2:0
Benj^n Egbertse for	2: 9:0	John Ram & John Strope for	1:10:0
Baltus Lydias for	2: 5:0	Guy Young for	2:16:0
Henry Van Veghten for	2: 5:0	Gerrit Van Vrankie for	7:16:6
Barent Roseboom for	1: 4:0	Mathew Arsen for	9: 4:0
George Rogers,	0:12:0		

Resolved by this Board that the Mayor settle and execute the Deeds in behalf of the Corporation for the exchange of the Ground on the north side of the Foxes Creek with Mr. Van Den Bergh.

Also Resolved by this Board that the Clerk draw a Warrent for the Assessors to assess the sum not exceeding £150 for the City Night watch and Lamps in the City of Albany.

Resolved by this Board that Jacob Vielen have leave to cut 100 Logs of Timber in the Corporation Right and that he allow the Corporation nine pence for every Log and that he bring in his acc^t and the Quantity of the same shall be sworn to.

A map being shewn to the Corporation of their right from Albany to Schenectady and the same to be filed with the City Chaimberlain.

At a Common Council held at the City Hall of the City of Albany the 23d day of Febru^y, 1773.

This Board having received advice that his Excellency by Message to the House of Assembly now sitting, recommended to them to pass a Law to secure to the Mohawk Indians the Lands whereupon they reside at Tionderoga, but the Reversion thereof is to be vested in this Board, which Reversion or right of entry when it can take place will (in case such a Law does pass) only be determinable by a future Legislature. This Board conceiving that if such a Law is made that it will abridge their rights to those Lands, which have been amply secured to them by Royal Charter and by Purchase from the Natives, do therefore upon mature consideration deem it absolutely necessary by all legal ways and means to oppose the passing of the said Law, for which said purpose they nominate and appoint Gysbert G. Marselis and Robert Yates, Aldermen, a Committe to go down to New York, and they have hereby full power and authority to act, transact and forward all matters and things which may tend most to the advantage of this City touching the said Premises in as full and ample manner as if this said Board were personally present, and for the purposes aforesaid to prefer one or more Petitions of such tenor and purport as they shall think necessary and one or more Attornies under them to make and at their pleasure to revoke, and this Board will make good to them all reasonable Disbursements and Expences, and this Board directs their Chaimberlain to advance to them out of any Money in his hands the sum of £20, for which sum they must be accountable upon their return.

and the Portage near Niagra, they are near as numerous as all the rest of the Six Nations and they lye next to other Nations who thro' means of the Emigrants endeavor to render them discontented Indeed one half of the Senecas have behaved with great fidelity, but the Example of the Rest may have an evil effect upon them, & this conduct of the upper Senecas will not at all appear surprizing on perusing the accounts I have formerly given of its motives and Causes. In short they had always emissaries from, and were loaded with favors by the French as appeared clearly by the Books of accounts which fell into my hands when I had the honor to take possession of Niagra, which very important Fortress I beleive we should have found it very difficult to reach, much less to reduce with so small, an army, & without a single vessel on Lake Ontario, but for the secrecy and fidelity of the Senecas at that time, who having had a little misunderstanding with the French, I took care to improve it by shewing them the many advantages they would derive from its being reduced, and by Promises concerning fair Trade &c^a^ which alltho' I was authorized to make, I am sorry to say it was never yet in my power to perform with effect For all these reasons, I was well pleased to hear the Senecas give me such assurances as they have lately done & shall do all in my power to improve their present disposition, as it will induce the rest of the confederacy to act with more spirit, and strengthen their attachment to us, when they find that their advice has succeeded with the upper Senecas & that their Interests are no longer separate—and as I purpose to hold a congress with the Shawanese Delawares Hurons &c^a^ next month I shall then endeavour to put a stop to their pernicious practises with the Six Nations Emigrants &c. as well as to other more dangerous matters, after which I shall do myself the honor of writing to your Lordship

I have the honor to be with the highest Esteem—My Lord

Your Lordships most obed^t^
& very humble Servant
W JOHNSON

Proceedings of Sir William Johnson with the Six Nations.

[S. P. O. Plantations General, CCLIX.]

At a Congress with the Cheifs of the Six Nations Held at Johnson Hall on Wednesday Ap 7. 1773.

PRESENT—Sir William Johnson Bt Superint^dt^ &c
Daniel Claus } Deputy Agents
Guy Johnson } Deputy Agents
Sir John Johnson Kn^t^
Richard Shuckburgh Esq^re^ Sec^ry^ to Indian Affrs.
John Blagge Esq^re^ Clk of the County of Tryon
John Dease Esq^re^ & several other Gentm^n^.

Teyawarunte Speaker of Onondaga addressed Sir William Johnson on behalf of all the Six Nations present and after performing the Ceremony of Condolence according to the usual form delivered— 3 Strings of Wampum

Sir William then after acquainting them that he was unwilling to give them any delay in proceeding to business repeated what they said, as is usual, and then returned the ceremony of condolence on the parts of the English in due form, after which he delivered them

3 strings.

Sir William then added that as they had been detained for some days untill all their cheifs came to the Council fire, & as the Customary Forms were now finished, he was ready, and desirous that they should proceed immediately to business.

Teyawarunte then, on behalf, of the rest, told Sir William, that agreeable to his desire they were ready, and would immediately proceed to business. He then repeated sundry past transactions particularly Sir Williams speech of October last respecting their Conduct towards the Twightwees, Piankashaws, &c, and assured him that the Six Nations had paid due regard thereto, & would faithfully deliver their Sentiments to him, to which they begged he would pay due attention. Gave a Belt of 6 Rows

He then proceeded

Brother Warraghiyagey

We have thought very seriously on your former speech, wherein you pointed out to us the many ill consequences that must attend our People's entering into foreign alliances or associating in Councils with those who have not paid due regard to their engagements, or who were not of our natural confederacy — We have since taken this into full consideration among ourselves, and we think your advice so wholesome, and friendly, that we are now sensible of the errors into which some of our Nations were running, and have taken measures accordingly to prevent it by withdrawing from the Councils and Politicks of these people. You may therefore depend that it is the unanimous determination of all our People to follow your advice

A Belt of 5 Rows

Brother Warraghiyagey.

We are all very thankfull to you for reminding us in your former speech of our ancient Customs, and pointing out to us the impropriety of the Conduct of some of our People in carrying on private Transactions and neglecting the proper *Fire Place.* We are now fully sensible of all this, and unanimously resolved to pay due regard to what you have said, by avoiding any bad connections, and by the openness of our conduct, to which end, we shall undertake nothing without your knowledge and we flatter ourselves that we shall act mutually together upon this occasion in preserving entire all past engagements

A Belt of 6 Rows

Brother

We have taken notice of your having pointed out to us those things in which some of us have erred, and followed evil councils without considering our true Interests, and of your recommending it to the Mohawks, and Onondagas, as elder Branches of the Confederacy to bring the Senecas to a due sense of their Inattention to its true Interests.—We thank you very kindly for your advice, and do assure you on behalf of the Senecas, whose cheifs are here present, that it has had the desired effect, and that the are heartily sorry for their imprudent Conduct, which was wholly owing to Aguastarax the old Cheif (now deceased) who turned his face the wrong way and did not act as the Door to our confederacy to the Westward; but the Senecas now assure you that they will no longer be misguided but keep their face towards the great Council fire at Onondaga, and this Place, and set a good example to the rest by listening only to you, and their own confederacy, and taking care that the *Door*, to the Westward be not kept continually open to receive all bad News, as has been the Case— We likewise assure you on behalf of the whole Confederacy that we shall pursue the measures we have already taken for bringing our People from the scattered villages within the Pale of the Confederacy, to which end we have sent to Kayashota the Cheif on *Ohio*, and the People there to direct them to pay due regard to what was recommended to them, and in this we declare that we are sincere of which the Senecas give you assurance by this Belt

A large Belt of 8 Rows

Brother

We embrace with pleasure your advice to cultivate the friendship of the English, and strengthen the union between us — be assured we shall testify to all nations, our firmness therein, pay due regard to all our old engagements with you, and bring any offenders amongst us to a sense of their duty—Thoroughly persuaded that you speak for our Interest and having for many years experienced your knowledge of all our Nations, and your capacity to advise us to what will best tend to our Happiness, we likewise by this Belt assure you on behalf of the Warriors, that they are determined to abide by, and enforce what we here promise, and to follow your good council, requesting that you will continue to us your advice, and assist us in the undertak^e. A large Belt of 11 Rows.

Brother

As soon as the Messengers return from our People on *Ohio*, we shall then as an unanimous body call a General Council at our own Great Fire Place at Onondaga and summon the Twightwees Piankashaws and other troublesome Nations to appear and answer for their conduct — we have already called upon them twice, and agreeable to our own ancient customs shall do so the third time, before we strike: but should they then neglect us, you may be assured we shall fall upon them, and shew them their folly, and our attachment to the English, who we beleive have suffered much from them to the Southward; and to give them an opportunity of making proper atonement, we prefer this delay to any harsh measures, unless we find them irreclamable.—But, Brother, we must observe to you, and we request it may be seriously considered that the misconduct of these Nations is much owing to the English themselves for these Nations were never hearty, and some of them, not even pretended friends to the English. Yet the English Traders and also the French have of late years rambled in great numbers all over this Country, for the sake of Gain, and are but too often guilty of frauds which inflame their resentment. In the French time, their Traders rambled in that manner, they were often plundered, and killed; but the French did not resent it, knowing it to be their own faults— And we must again remark, as we have often done lately, that there is no certain way of preventing this, but by having fixed Posts, and proper Regulations for the Traders. whilst these, there were seldom any Outrages, the Indians were better pleased, and the Traders had Profit enough — we heartily wish that you would consider these things as matters of great importance to the general Peace A Belt of 7 Rows

Brother

When we first saw the White People and fastned their ship to the great Tree, the Band of our Union was a fair Trade. When we strengthened our Alliance with the English, and fastned their ship with an Iron chain (there being one afterwards made of Silver) Trade was our mutual object, and in most subsequent Treaties, it was provided that Trade should be plentiful and that we should not be cheated. The Places of Trade were few, and the Traders were all well known;—the like promise was made to us whenever Canada should be reduced, for a time it went on pretty well, but of late the Traders go about where they please, and sell at the most exorbitant Rates, besides following us to our hunting Grounds to take advantage of our people by means of Liquor the bring with them. Of all this the Indian Nations complain; for as they live by hunting, it becomes a more heavy greivance to them, than it would do to others. we have often complained of this, but we find no redress, and therefore if these repeated Impositions obstruct our good intentions the fault is not ours. Brother we beg you will consider our Case, so as that the Governors concerned may do what has been promised, we must likewise sollicit the favor of the General that bothe he and you may lay our Hardships before the King, who I trust will releive us. In this hope we now on behalf of all our confederacy, renew, strengthen and brighten the Covenant Chain and the Senecas particularly assure you that they and all their Dependants, do now take hold of it, and brighten the same, firmly resolving to contribute all their endeavours, in conjunction with the rest of the Confederacy to keep it bright, hoping that you will be assisting therein for our mutual Interest and the preservation of Peace A large Covenant Chain Belt with 12 Squares, 11 Rows.

Sir William answered them that he had given due attention to what they had said, and would give them an answer there tomorrow, then gave them Pipes, Tobacco and some Liquor, after which the withdrew to their several Encampments

The day following the Indians had several Conferences among themselves and therefore were not assembled till the day next succeeding

At a Congress with the Six Nations Held at Johnson Hall on Friday April 9th 1773.

Present — as before

Sir William Johnson addressed the Indians as follows viz.

Brethren of the Six Nations

I have heard and fully considered all you said to me yesterday, and am glad you remember so well my Speech of last Autumn. As the purport of your three first Belts is nearly the same I answer them with this Belt, assuring you that the regard you say you have paid to my advice & admonitions is highly pleasing to me, and as I advised you to shake off all connections which were foreign to your true Interests, so I expect that it will appear by your actions, that you have done so, which you will find to be to your advantage A Belt

Brothers

It gives me great satisfaction to hear that the Mohocks, and Onondagas agreeable to my advice, have brought the Senecas the third elder Branch of their Confederacy to their proper senses, in which, through the advice of the rest, and the good Councils I shall give them, I hope they will remain, and I am well pleased to hear the same strengthened by their present declaration, and Promises — I am not ignorant, that Aguastarax & several others of that Nation, sought Interests foreign to yours, and that he was highly criminal in sending and receiving bad Belts, acting therein as your general Enemy, though it was his duty, as the Western Door of the Six Nations, to take care that nothing dangerous should enter. At the same time, I do not yet find much satisfaction concerning those bad Belts which certainly are still lurking some where, and which I expect to see very soon to confirm my opinion of the Senecas good intentions You act very wisely in the Steps you have taken to bring your straggling people within the immediate influence of your confederacy, as they are at present exposed to bad advice and negligent of your directions. I persuade myself that Kayashota, their cheif will cooperate with you therein, and I hope to see it soon effected. A Belt.

Brothers

I hear with satisfaction that you repeat your resolution of bringing all refractory members of your confederacy to order, that you will act with firmness, and that you appear thoroughly satisfied that my advice is wholesome, and good, and I am greatly pleased to hear the Declaration of the Warriors to support & strengthen the same, which I expect they will do with becoming spirit, according to the design intended A Belt

Brothers

You tell me that as soon as all matters are settled with your people at the Ohio you will call a general Council at Onondaga, and summon the Twightwees and their adherents to attend the same for the last time. I do not doubt, but that in this, you imagine you act right, and agreeable to ancient custom; but you must be sensible that I do well know your ancient customs, that I cannot be mistaken in them, having committed them all to writing an age ago, when they were better understood than they are at present, and from which I assure you, that there is no necessity of your using so much delicacy with people, who so little deserve favor from your hands, especially as you are in a great measure accountable for the actions of those who have been always deemed your dependants:—and perhaps it were better that you brought them to reason, than by tollerating their depredations to expose them to the powerfull arm of the English, who will certainly no longer suffer them to Act as they have done with impunity. Whatever therefore you do, should be done quickly before the People are so involved in guilt, that the resentm^t of the English cannot be restrained.—I can hardly think that their conduct is merely owing to abuses in Trade, but rather to a malevolent spirit and evil Communication—and as to the establishm^{ts} of Posts for Trade I have long since acquainted you that His Maty has left the Trade free, and open with a view, that you should find plenty of Goods: at the same time that he recommended it to each of the American Governments to fall upon such Regulations, as would prevent any abuses therein which they promised to do, and which I have often recommended, and I shall still continue as far as is in my power, to recommend the necessary Establishments for that purpose A Belt

Brothers

I am well acquainted with the nature, and terms of your first Treaties with the English, and that Trade was always considered as an article of much importance, neither can I find that it was ever withheld from you.

After the reduction of Canada, it was greatly enlarged by the addition of many new Traders, whereby goods were plenty and cheap. Among such a number, there are doubtless some that will deceive you, especially as long as you continue your passion for that liquor, which is the source of so many evils—There is hower no doubt, that when the Colonies are agreed as to the nature of the regulations, Provision will be made against the abuses you complain of, and in the mean time I recommend it to you to endeavour at reforming yourselves by a more moderate use of that liquor, in which case the Traders will bring less into your Country, and you will be more on guard against their Frauds, whilst I use my endeavors as I have hitherto done, to procure you the salutary establishments you require

Your case has been already laid fully before the Governors, and I can assure you that the Governor of this Province, and those of the other Colonies that are concerned in the Regulations for the Indian Trade are heartily disposed to promote every thing in your favor—The General who commands the army, is also much your friend, and as he is shortly to go over the Great Lake, he will I persuade myself, recommend these points to the Great King who is heartily disposed to protect and favor all faithfull Indians

I thank you for renewing & brightening the ancient chain of Friendship, and particularly in that the Senecas are so wise as to take a firm hold of it—Whilst they value themselves and their confederates, I hope they will retain it firmly, and I expect that as they are the western Door they will henceforth take care that they admit nothing among them, that may give offence to those in the middle or at the East end of the Chain, but hearken to good advice and follow it

To promote all this, I do now on behalf of the Great King and his subjects Renew, strengthen and brighten this Chain assuring you that it shall be held fast and kept bright on the part of the English and that it shall last for ever, if you do your parts to preserve it. I hope you have too much sense of its value to expose it to any danger and that you will treasure up my advice as essential to your happiness. Gave a large Covenant Chain Belt 13 Rows Black with White Squares

To which after a little consultation the Indians answered by their Speaker

Brother

We thank you for what you have done and for acquainting us with the good inclination of the Governor of this, and the other Provinces. We are sorry that the General, who has been so long known, and so kind to us is going away, as we have a great friendship for him. At the same time we think it will be a good opportunity for laying our Greivances before the Great King, and we hope the General will continue his friendship to us when he gets over the Great Lake, from the Success of which we have much expectat

Saturday April 10 The Indians being all assembled. Seriohana Cheif of the Senecas of Chenussio then addressed Sir William Johnson

Brother Warraghiyagey

If we were not sufficiently explicit regarding the bad Belts, it was really because we thought it needless, as they are no longer of Force, nor shall they ever rise to disturb the peace. It is very true that after having made repeated complaints ineffectually concerning the murder of several of our friends to the Southward, as well as at Juniata we were so exasperated, and alarmed lest the English had a general design against us, that some of our People sent Belts thro' the Nations, adviseing them to have the Hatchet in readiness in case of an attack on notice from us—These Belts were sent far South, and one is now in the Cherokee country, but our bad advisers are now dead, and our Resolutions now changed, as a Proof of which we shall immediately send for that Belt, and bring it in case it is not taken up by Kayashuta, as he was directed, and have now entered heartily into the measures recommended by you, and the confederacy, and assure you by this Belt, that we shall faithfully observe the same

A Belt.

Sir William then told the Chenussios, that they were right in making a plain declaration respecting the Belts especially as it was accompanied by assurances of fetching them away and acting a different part in future all which he expected to see fully perform^{d} as an atonement for the offence.

He then acquainted them with the intelligence he had just received from the General respecting the Conduct of the Powtawatamies, six of whom, and three Squaws, last December had wounded and attempted to murder Mr Van Slyck a considerable Trader at St Joseph's killed one of his People, and dangerously wounded an other and that one Indian was killed, and two wounded. That Van Slyck was obliged to fly leaving goods of his and Mr McComb's of above £1500 value behind them [Note. The French were in fault on the occasion, & particularly that Lauison Chaville a very bad man who was married to a Squaw, encourages these murders]—Sir William observed that the unparallelled ill conduct of those Powtawatamies would no longer pass unresented, and asked them what they thought of it

After some consultation among themselves, they returned their answer declaring their detestation of such proceedings which they said were much owing to the French who ought to be removed out of that country. At the same time, as a proof of their aversion for the Powtawatamies on account of their repeated ill behaviour, they the Six Nations, were ready to resent it, to which end they delivered Sir William a Belt from them to the Powtawatamies to be sent by his express to the Commanding officer at Detroit acquainting these Indians that their conduct towards the English reflected on all the Nations That they advised them immediately to desist and repent heartily of what they had done, otherwise that they the Six Nations would think themselves under the necessity of compelling them thereto by force and that without delay, they therefore desired to have an answer soon.

Sir William told them that he would forward their Belt, as they desired, and after acquainting them that he intended meeting the Shawanees Delawares, and Hurons in May put an end to the Congress, and on Monday following delivered them out the Present.

A true Copy Exd
G Johnson Dy Agent
as Secretary
in the absence of Mr Shuckburgh who returned home at the close of the Congress

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Sir William Johnson to the Earl of Dartmouth.

[Plantations General (S. P. O., No. 5) CCLIX.]

Johnson Hall April 30. 1773.

My Lord

After finishing the dispatches which accompany this I was honored with your Lordships letter (No 3) of Feby last, from which I am concerned to find that the copy of the Proceedings referred to in my letter of last Novr was omitted to be sent, a circumstance which never before happened to me & which can only be attributed to the peculiar hurry and trouble in which I am involved at the close of every Congress, a Degree of trouble which can not be conceived by those who are not spectators of it

As the general scope of that congress was given in my letter, and as the proceedings of the late one which accompany this are in some measure a recapitulation of the former, but more especially as the Packet will sail by the time this can reach New York, I think it best by the French and I apprehend cannot be admitted by us without establishing a very dangerous precedent. But if credit may be given to reports concerning them many of those settlers have strolled from the Detroit, from both sides of the Mississippi and other places, and seated themselves at Post Vincenne without any permission or any colour of right or title.

Since the receipt of their letter I have wrote to the people to transmit without delay a list of all the settlers to mention each person by name, the date of his grant, by whom granted, by whom confirmed, and where it is registered. If they comply with my demand in the manner directed it will throw some light on the nature and justice of their claims, and if it is judged necessary to proceed to proof I apprehend that permission might be obtained to search the archives at New Orleans.

I have by the same opportunity wrote to the commanding officer at Kaskaskies to desire he would confer again with the people of the Ilinois on the subject of a civil government and endeavour to prevail on them to send through him some reasonable proposals on that head; and gave him farther directions to do everything wanted for the security of the post he has taken if anything necessary thereto has been omitted.

Information has been received by letters from the Detroit on the 24th of December of an attack upon a trader and his servants at St Joseph by the Pouteatamie Indians, in which some were killed and wounded on both sides and the trader made his escape to the Detroit with one of his servants. He suspects that a Frenchman who has traded a considerable time at that place and married an Indian woman set the savages upon him to deter others from going there and to enjoy alone the trade of the village, of which practices he has been suspected before though it will be very difficult to convict him. Within these three years there has been as many traders killed at St Joseph by those Indians and their effects plundered; and as it is become absolutely requisite to take measures that shall put a stop to such horrid proceedings I have ordered the officer commanding at the Detroit to make particular enquiry into the late affair, and if he finds the trader has been attacked in his lawful pursuits and without cause that he should take it up in a high strain and make a regular demand of satisfaction from the nation. And that this may be done in form and agreeably to their own customs and ceremonies, I have desired Sir William Johnson to give his advice and directions how to proceed. I have farther ordered the commanding officer, if proof can be procured of the Frenchman's guilt, to try by stratagem or force [to] get him into his power and send him prisoner to Montreal. *Signed.* [C.O.5/90, fo. 130]

XLIV

Congress with Six Nations[1]

7 April, Johnson Hall

At a congress with the chiefs of the Six Nations held at Johnson Hall on Wednesday April the 7th, 1773. Present: Sir William Johnson Bart., Superintendent etc.; Daniel Claus, Guy Johnson, Esqs., deputy agents; Sir

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[1] Enclosed in Sir W. Johnson's letter of 22 April 1773 to Dartmouth, below No. XLVII.

John Johnson Knt.; Richard Shuckburgh Esq., Secretary to Indian Affairs; John Blagge Esq., Clerk of the County of Tryon; John Dease Esq.; and several other gentlemen.

Teyawarunte, speaker of Onondaga, addressed Sir William Johnson on behalf of all the nations present, and after performing the ceremony of condolence according to the usual form delivered 3 strings of wampum.

Sir William then, after acquainting them that he was unwilling to give them any delay in proceeding to business, repeated what they said, as is usual, and then returned the ceremony of condolence on the part of the English in due form, after which he delivered them 3 strings.

Sir William then added that as they had been detained for some days until all their chiefs came to the council fire and as the customary forms were now finished, he was ready and desirous that they should proceed immediately to business.

Teyawarunte then on behalf of the rest told Sir William that agreeable to his desire they were ready and would immediately proceed to business. He then repeated sundry past transactions, particularly Sir William's speech of October last respecting their conduct towards the Twightwees, Piankashaws etc. and assured him that the Six Nations had paid due regard thereto and would faithfully deliver their sentiments to him, to which they begged he would pay due attention. Gave a belt of 6 rows.

He then proceeded :

Brother Warraghiyagey, We have thought very seriously on your former speech wherein you pointed out to us the many ill consequences that must attend our people's entering into foreign alliances or associating in councils with those who have not paid due regard to their engagements or who were not of our natural confederacy. We have since taken this into full consideration among ourselves and we think your advice so wholesome and friendly that we are now sensible of the errors into which some of our nations were running and have taken measures accordingly to prevent it by withdrawing from the councils and politics of these people. You may therefore depend that it is the unanimous determination of all our people to follow your advice.

A belt of 5 rows.

Brother Warraghiyagey, We are all very thankful to you for reminding us in your former speech of our ancient customs and pointing out to us the impropriety of the conduct of some of our people in carrying on private transactions and neglecting the proper fireplace. We are now fully sensible of all this and unanimously resolved to pay due regard to what you have said by avoiding any bad connections and by the openness of our conduct, to which end we shall undertake nothing without your knowledge and we flatter ourselves that we shall act mutually together upon this occasion in preserving entire all past engagements.

A belt of 6 rows.

Brother, We have taken notice of your having pointed out to us those things in which some of us have erred and followed evil councils without considering our true interest, and of your recommending it to the Mohawks and Onondagas as elder branches of the confederacy to bring the Senecas to a due sense of their inattention to its true interests. We thank you very kindly for your advice and do assure you on behalf of the Senecas whose chiefs are here present that it has had the desired effect and that they are heartily sorry for their imprudent conduct which was wholly owing to Agaustarax, the old chief (now deceased) who turned his face the wrong way and did not act as the door to our confederacy to the westward; but the Senecas now assure you that they will no longer be misguided but keep their face towards the great council fire at Onondaga and this place and set a good example to the rest by listening only to you and their own confederacy and taking care that the door to the westward be not kept continually open to receive all bad news as has been the case. We likewise assure you on behalf of the whole confederacy that we shall pursue the measures we have already taken for bringing our people from the scattered villages within the pale of the confederacy, to which end we have sent to Kayashota, the chief on Ohio, and the people there to direct them to pay due regard to what was recommended to them. And in this we declare that we are sincere, of which the Senecas give you assurance by this belt.

A large belt of 8 rows.

Brother, We embrace with pleasure your advice to cultivate the friendship of the English and strengthen the union between us. Be assured we shall testify to all nations our firmness therein, pay due regard to all our old engagements with you, and bring any offenders among us to a sense of their duty. Thoroughly persuaded that you speak for our interest and having for many years experienced your knowledge of all our nations and your capacity to advise us to what will best tend to our happiness, we likewise by this belt assure you on behalf of the warriors that they are determined to abide by and enforce what we here promise and to follow your good council, requesting that you will continue to us your advice and assist us in the undertaking.

A large belt of 11 rows.

Brother, So soon as the messengers return from our own people on Ohio, we shall then as a unanimous body call a general council at our own great fireplace at Onondaga and summon the Twightwees, Piankashaws and other troublesome nations to appear and answer for their conduct. We have already called upon them twice and agreeable to our own ancient customs shall do so the third time before we strike, but should they then neglect us you may be assured we shall fall upon them and show them their folly and our attachment to the English, who we believe have suffered much from them to the southward; and to give them an opportunity of making proper atonement we prefer this delay to any harsh measures unless we find them irreclaimable. But, Brother, we must observe to you and we request it may be seriously considered that the misconduct of these nations is much owing to the English themselves, for these nations were never hearty and some of them not even pretended friends to the English, yet the English traders and also the French have of late years rambled in great numbers all over this country for the sake of gain and are but too often guilty of frauds which inflame their resentment. In the French time their traders rambled in that manner, they were often plundered and killed but the French did not resent it, knowing it to be their own faults. And we must again remark as we have often done lately that there is no certain way of preventing this but by having fixed posts and proper regulations for the traders. Whilst these subsisted there was seldom any outrages, the Indians were better pleased, and the traders had profit enough. We heartily wish that you would consider these things as matters of great importance to the general peace.

A belt of 7 rows.

Brother, When we first saw the white people and fastened their ship to the great tree, the band of our union was a fair trade. When we strengthened our alliance with the English and fastened the ship with an iron chain (there being one afterwards made of silver) trade was our mutual object and in most subsequent treaties it was provided that trade should be plentiful and that we should not be cheated. The places of trade were few and the traders were all well known. The like promise was made to us whenever Canada should be reduced. For a time it went on pretty well but of late the traders go about where they please and sell at the most exorbitant rates, besides following us to our hunting grounds to take advantage of our people by means of liquor they bring with them. Of all this the Indian nations complain, for as they live by hunting it becomes a more heavy grievance to them than it would be to others. We have often complained of this but we find no redress, and therefore if these repeated impositions obstruct our good intentions the fault is not ours. Brother, we beg you will consider our case so as that the Governors concerned may do what has been promised. We must likewise solicit the favour of the General that both he and you may lay our hardships before the King who I trust will relieve us. In this hope we now on behalf of all our confederacy renew, strengthen and brighten the covenant chain, and the Senecas particularly assure you that they and all their dependents do now take hold of it and brighten the same, firmly resolving to contribute all their endeavours in conjunction with the rest of the confederacy to keep it bright, hoping that you will be assisting therein for our mutual interest and the preservation of peace.

A large covenant chain belt, with 12 squares, 11 rows.

Sir William answered them that he had given due attention to what they had said and would give them an answer there tomorrow, then gave them pipes, tobacco and some liquor, after which they withdrew to their several encampments.

The day following the Indians had several conferences among themselves and therefore were not assembled till the day next succeeding.

At a congress with the Six Nations held at Johnson Hall on Friday, April the 9th, 1773.

Present as before.

Sir William Johnson addressed the Indians as follows vizt.

Brethren of the Six Nations, I have heard and fully considered all you said to me yesterday and am glad you remember so well my speech of last autumn. As the purport of your three first belts is nearly the same I answer them with this belt, assuring you that the regard you say you have paid to my advice and admonitions is highly pleasing to me; and as I advised you to shake off all connections which were foreign to your true interests, so I expect that it will appear by your actions that you have done so, which you will find to be to your advantage.

A belt.

Brothers, It gives me great satisfaction to hear that the Mohocks and Onondagas agreeable to my advice have brought the Senecas, the third elder branch of the confederacy, to their proper senses in which through the advice of the rest and the good councils I shall give them I hope they will remain : and I am well pleased to hear the same strengthened by their present declaration and promises. I am not ignorant that Agaustarax and several others of that nation sought interests foreign to yours and that he was highly criminal in sending and receiving bad belts, acting therein as your general enemy though it was his duty as the western door of the Six Nations to take care that nothing dangerous should enter. At the same time I do not yet find much satisfaction concerning those bad belts which certainly are still lurking somewhere, and which I expect to see very soon to confirm my opinion of the Senecas' good intentions. You act very wisely in the steps you have taken to bring your straggling people within the immediate influence of your confederacy as they are at present exposed to bad advice and negligent of your directions. I persuade myself that Kayashota their chief will cooperate with you therein and I hope to see it soon effected.

A belt.

Brothers, I hear with satisfaction that you repeat your resolution of bringing all refractory members of your confederacy to order, that you will act with firmness, and that you appear thoroughly satisfied that my advice is wholesome and good, and I am greatly pleased to hear the declaration of the warriors to support and strengthen the same which I expect they will do with becoming spirit according to the design intended.

A belt.

Brothers, You tell me that as soon as all matters are settled with your people at the Ohio you will call a general council at Onondaga and summon the Twightwees and their adherents to attend the same for the last time. I do not doubt but that in this you imagine you act right and agreeable to ancient custom; but you must be sensible that I also well know your ancient customs, that I cannot be mistaken in them, having committed them all to writing an age ago when they were better understood than they are at present, and from which I assure you that there is no necessity of you using so much delicacy with people who so little deserve favour from your hands, especially as you are in a great measure accountable for the actions of those who have been always deemed your dependents; and perhaps it were better that you brought them to reason than by tolerating their depredations to expose them to the powerful arm of the English who will certainly no longer suffer them to act as they have done with impunity. Whatever therefore you do should be done quickly before the people are so involved in guilt that the resentment of the English cannot be restrained. I can hardly think that their conduct is merely owing to abuses in trade but rather to a malevolent spirit and evil communications; and as to the establishments of posts for trade, I have long since acquainted you that His Majesty has left the trade free and open with a view that you should find plenty of goods, at the same time that he recommended it to each of the American governments to fall upon such regulations as would prevent any abuses therein, which they promised to do and which I have often recommended and I shall continue as far as is in my power to recommend the necessary establishments for that purpose.

A belt.

Brothers, I am well acquainted with the nature and terms of your first treaties with the English and that trade was always considered as an article of much importance, neither can I find that it was ever withheld from you. After the reduction of Canada it was greatly enlarged by the addition of many new traders whereby goods were plenty and cheap. Among such a number are doubtless some that will deceive you, especially so long as you continue your passion for that liquor which is the source of so many evils. There is, however, no doubt that when the colonies are agreed as to the nature of the regulations, provision will be made against the abuses you complain of. And in the meantime I recommend it to you to endeavour at reforming yourselves by a more moderate use of that liquor, in which case the traders will bring less into your country and you will be more on your guard against their frauds, whilst I use my endeavours as I have hitherto done to procure you the salutary establishments you require.

Your case has been already laid fully before the Governors, and I can assure you that the Governor of this province and those of the other colonies that are concerned in the regulations for the Indian trade are heartily disposed to promote everything in your favour. The General who commands the army is also much your friend, and as he is shortly to go over the Great Lake he will I persuade myself recommend these points to the Great King who is heartily disposed to protect and favour all faithful Indians.

I thank you for renewing and brightening the ancient chain of friendship and particularly in that the Senecas are so wise as to take a firm hold of it. Whilst they value themselves and their confederates I hope they will retain it firmly, and I expect that as they are the western door they will hereafter take care that they admit nothing among them that may give offence to those in the middle or at the east end of the chain but harken to good advice and follow it. To promote all this I do now on behalf of the Great King and his subjects renew, strengthen and brighten this chain, assuring you that it shall be held fast and kept bright on the part of the English and that it shall last for ever if you do your parts to preserve it. I hope you have too much sense of its value to expose it to any danger and that you will treasure up my advice as essential to your happiness.

Gave a large covenant chain belt,
13 rows black with white squares.

To which after a little consultation the Indians answered by their speaker:

Brother, We thank you for what you have now done and for acquainting us with the good inclination of the Governor of this and the other provinces. We are sorry that the General who has been so long known and so kind to us is going away as we have a great friendship for him. At the same time we think it will be a good opportunity for laying our grievances before the Great King and we hope that the General will continue his friendship to us when he gets over the Great Lake, from the success of which we have much expectation.

Saturday, April the 10th. The Indians being all assembled, Seriohana, chief of the Senecas of Chenussio, then addressed Sir William Johnson.

Brother Warraghiyagey, If we were not sufficiently explicit regarding the bad belts it was really because we thought it needless as they are no longer of force nor shall they ever rise to disturb the peace. It is very true that after having made repeated complaints ineffectually concerning the murder of several of our friends to the southward as well as at Tuniata, we were so exasperated and alarmed lest the English had a general design against us that some of our people sent belts through the nations advising them to have the hatchet in readiness in case of an attack on notice from us. These belts were sent far south and one is now in the Cherokee country, but our bad advisers are now dead and our resolutions now changed, as a proof of which we shall immediately send for that belt and bring it in case it is not taken up by Kayashota as he was directed, and have now entered heartily into the measures recommended by you and the confederacy and assure you by this belt that we shall faithfully observe the same.

A belt.

Sir William then told the Chenussios that they were right in making a plain declaration respecting the belts especially as it was accompanied by assurances of fetching them away and acting a different part in future, all which he expected to see fully performed as an atonement for the offence.

He then acquainted them with the intelligence he had just received from the General respecting the conduct of the Powtawatamies, six of whom and three squaws last December had wounded and attempted to murder Mr Vanslyck, a considerable trader at St Joseph's, killed one of his people and dangerously wounded another, and that one Indian was killed and two wounded; that Vanslyck was obliged to fly, leaving goods of his and Mr McComb's of above £1500 value behind them; that the French were in fault on the occasion and particularly Louison Chaville, a very bad man who was married to a squaw, encourages these murders. Sir William observed that the unparalleled ill conduct of these Powtawatamies would no longer pass unresented and asked them what they thought of it.

After some consultation among themselves they returned their answer, declaring their detestation of such proceedings which they said were much owing to the French who ought to be removed out of that country. At the same time, as a proof of their aversion for the Powtawatamies on account of their repeated ill behaviour, they the Six Nations were ready to resent it, to which end they delivered Sir William a belt from them to the Powtawatamies to be sent by his express to the commanding officer at Detroit acquainting these Indians that their conduct towards the English reflected on all the nations, that they advised them immediately to desist and repent heartily of what they had done, otherwise they the Six Nations would think themselves under the necessity of compelling them thereto by force and that without delay. They therefore desired to have an answer soon.

Sir William told them that he would forward their belt as they desired, and after acquainting them that he intended meeting the Shawanese, Delawares and Hurons in May, put an end to the congress and on Monday following delivered them out the present. *Copy,* certified by G. Johnson, deputy agent as secretary, in the absence of Mr Shuckburgh who returned home at the close of the congress. [C.O.5/74, fo. 123]

XLV

Attorney-General Egerton Leigh to Collector and Comptroller of Charleston[1]

8 April, Charleston

Gentlemen, I have the satisfaction to send you writs of assistance for the several Collectors and Comptrollers of the Customs for the different ports in this province and must desire you will transmit them accordingly. The Clerk of the Pleas furnished me with the taxed costs in these cases in order to procure payment of the same, for which purpose the law officers concerned beg you will lay these accounts before the Commissioners of the Customs at Boston for their allowance.

I likewise desire you will be pleased to acquaint their honours that I have paid due attention to their instructions and am always ready to promote His Majesty's service to the utmost of my power.

I beg you will acknowledge the receipt of the writs of assistance. *Copy. Signatory,* Egerton Leigh. [C.O.5/145, fo. 208]

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[1] Enclosed in John Robinson's letter of 25 August 1773 to Pownall, Vol. IV, No. 1429.

XLVI

Earl of Dartmouth to Governor William Tryon (No. 8)

10 April, Whitehall

Sir, the Lords of Trade having in a report to the Lords of the Committee of Council [Vol. V, No. CXXIII] stated several considerations and propositions respecting the claims of property and possession of lands lying between the River Connecticut and a supposed similar curve line at the distance of 20 miles from Hudson's River, His Majesty has been pleased upon a report from the said Committee to approve the several propositions recommended by the Board of Trade and I have received His Majesty's commands to give such directions to you as may be necessary thereupon. But as the carrying those propositions into effect depends upon the consent thereto of many persons having different interests in and claims to the lands and upon their acquiescence therein, and as there are I conceive many facts and circumstances which have never yet been stated that if not attended to may create difficulties that will render the whole plan abortive, I think it fit before I transmit to you His Majesty's final instructions upon so delicate and difficult a matter to state to you what those propositions are and to desire your full and candid sentiments thereupon.

The objects that are stated to deserve attention in the consideration of this business are, first, those townships lying in the district between the River Connecticut and the line abovementioned which were originally "with the Tribes of the Six Nations and their Confederates, as with the Cherokee Indians, as the "boundary Line between Your Majesty's Territories & the hunting Grounds of the Indians, & the Line "proposed by the Petitioners beginning on the south side of the River Ohio opposite to the mouth of "Sioto & running thence southerly thro' the pass in the Ouasioto mountains to the south side of the said "mountains But that all that part of the said Lands comprehended between the said two Lines shall "remain wholly unsettled and unoccupied by the petitioners & their associates, & each & every of their "Heirs & assigns, until such time as your Majestys allowance & permission for the settling and "occupying the same shall be first obtained.

"And Lastly the Lords of the Committee are of Opinion, to the end that the several persons "actually settled, or that may hereafter settle on the Lands in question, may be more properly & "quietly governed, that the said Settlement and District should be erected into a Separate Government "in such form and manner as to your Majesty's Wisdom shall seem meet, and under such other "restrictions & regulations as the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations shall advise."

His Majesty taking the said Report into Consideration was pleased with the advice of His Privy Council to approve of what was therein proposed, and accordingly to give the necessary directions to the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations for carrying the same into execution—And His Majesty is hereby pleased to order that the Right Hon^{ble} the Earl of Dartmouth, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, do receive His Majesty's Pleasure for directing His Majesty's Superintendant for Indian affairs to apprize the Chiefs of the Six Nations & their Confederates of His Majesty's Intention to form a Settlement upon the Lands purchased of them by His Majesty in 1768.

Signed

Steph: Cottrell.

EXTRACT OF THE MINUTES OF A CONGRESS WITH THE CHIEFS OF THE SIX NATIONS

HELD AT JOHNSON HALL APRIL THE 17TH. 1773.

But, Brother, we must observe to you, and we request it may be seriously considered that the misconduct of these Nations (that is to say, those to the South West) is much owing to the English themselves, for these nations were never hearty, and some of them, not even pretended friends to the English. Yet the English Traders, and also the French have of late years rambled in great numbers all over their Country for the sake of Gain, and are but too often guilty of frauds which inflame their Resentment.

In the French time, their Traders rambled in that manner: they were often plundered, and killed; but the French did not resent it, knowing it was their own faults,—and we must again remark, as we have often done lately, that there is no certain way of preventing this, but by having fixed Posts, and proper Regulations for the Traders. Whilst these subsisted there were seldom any Outrages, the Indians were better pleased, and the Traders had Profit enough. We heartily wish you would consider these things, as matters of great Importance to the general Peace.

A Belt of 7 Rows.

Brother.

When we first saw the White People, and fastened the Ship to the great Tree, the Band of our Union, was a fair Trade; when we strengthened our Alliance with the English, and fastened the Ship with an Iron Chain, which was afterwards made of Silver, Trade was our mutual object, and in most subsequent Treaties it was provided that Trade should be plentiful, and that we should not be cheated. the places of Trade were few, and the Traders well known. the like Promise was made us, whenever Canada should be reduced.—for a time it went on pretty well, but of late, the Traders go about where they please, and sell at the most extravagant Rates, besides following us to our Hunting Grounds to take advantage of our People, by means of the Liquor they bring with them. Of this, all the Indians complain; for as they live by Hunting, it becomes a more heavy Grievance to them, than it would do to others. We have often complained of this, but we find no Redress, and therefore if these repeated Impositions obstruct our good Intentions, the fault is not ours. Brother, we beg you will consider our case, so as that the Governors concerned may do what has been promised; we must likewise solicit the favor of the General, that both he, and you may lay our Hardships before the King who I trust will relieve us.—In this Hope we now on behalf of all our Confederacy, renew, strengthen, and brighten the Covenant Chain,—and the Senecas particularly assure you that they, and all their Dependants, do now take hold of it, and brighten the same, firmly resolving to contribute all their Endeavors, in conjunction with the rest of the Confederacy, to keep it bright, hoping that you will be assisting therein, for our mutual Interest, and the Preservation of Peace.

A large white Covenant Chain Belt with
12 Squares, 11 Rows.

To which Sir William answered—

BROTHERS.

I am well acquainted with the nature, and Terms of your first Treaties with the English, and that Trade was always considered as an article of much importance · neither can I find that it was ever withheld from you.

After the Reduction of Canada it was greatly enlarged by the addition of many new Traders, whereby Goods were plenty, and cheap. among such a number, there are doubtless some that will deceive you, especially so long as you continue your Passion for that Liquor which is the Source of so many Evils. There is however no doubt, that when the Colonies are agreed as to the nature of the Regulations, provision will be made against the Abuses you complain of—and in the mean time I recommend it to you to endeavor at reforming yourselves by a more moderate use of that Liquor in which case the Traders will bring less into your Country, and you will be more on your guard against their frauds, whilst I use my endeavors, as I have hitherto done to procure you the Salutary Establishments you require—Your case has been already fully laid before the Governors, and I can assure you that the Governor of this Province, and those of the other Colonies that are concerned in the Indian Trade, are heartily disposed to promote the Regulations.—the General who commands the Army, is also much your friend, and as he is shortly to go over the *Great Lake*, he will I persuade myself recommend these points to the Great King, who is heartily disposed to protect, and favor all faithfull Indians. I thank you for your renewing and brightening the ancient Chain of Friendship, and particularly, in that the Senecas are so wise as to take a firm Hold of it. Whilst they value themselves & their confederates, I hope they will retain it firmly; and I expect, that as the *Western Door*, they will hereafter take care that they admit nothing among them that may give offence to those in the *middle*, or at the *East end* of the Chain, but hearken to good advice, and follow it. To promote all this, I do now, on behalf of the Great King, and his subjects, renew, strengthen and brighten this Chain, assuring you that it shall be held fast, and kept bright, on the part of the English, and that it shall last for ever, if you do your parts to preserve it. I hope that you have too much sense of its value to expose it to any danger, and that you will Treasure up my advice as essential to your own Happiness.

A large Covenant Chain Belt
13 Rows black, with white Squares.

A true Copy from the Records
Examined by Mr Rd Shuckburgh Secry. for Ind. Affairs.

SPEECH OF DECHARIHOGA CHIEF OF THE CANAJOHARIES TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.

ON MONDAY THE 11TH JULY 1774 A FEW HOURS BEFORE SIR WM'S DECEASE & IN PRESENCE OF THE SIX NATIONS.

Brother

It is with Pain I am under the necessity of Complaining again against that old Rogue, the old Disturber of our village, George Klock. You are long acquainted with his Artifices, and evil Conduct, and you have often assured us you had applied for Redress; but whatever is the Reason, we never yet Obtained any Satisfaction, and we begin to be doubtful whether the English will afford it to us, for which reason we are driven to the necessity of mentioning our Grievances to you in the Presence of the whole Confederacy, that they who know our Rank, may espouse our Cause, as it is their duty to do, and convince the English that we have ffriends, and deserve Attention.

Brother—I will not take up your time with telling you, & your Brothers here present, the many Artifices he has made use of to Cheat us of our Lands, and to create Divisions among ourselves. I shall only mention his last actions. This *evil Spirit*, last Winter by his Cunning, seduced one of our foolish young ffellows to Steal away with him to England, where he exposed him for a shew, and Cheated him out of his Money. Klock has since Stolen home like a Rogue as he went out, and when we had notice of it, and applied to him to sign the Release, (which all the rest did) of the Lands wch he Stole, he appointed a time for it, but when we came to his House, and brought a Justice of Peace to be present, he refused Admittance to him & us, and has since ran away, and propagated a Story that some of us threatened his Life. It is true, Brother, that the man he Cheated went and took some of his own Money, and probably, some of our young ffellows after his own evil Example, might have used angry Threats to induce him to sign the Release, but we disavow it, as we do all his falsehoods, and are ready to wait for Justice. It has been often promised, but never afforded us. We beg that the great Men who manage the White People, may obtain Justice for us, and cause him to sign the Deed, and let us alone,—And if we thought this would still be done, we would willingly wait awhile patiently, otherwise, we cannot answer for the Consequences.

To which Sir William Johnson answd:

That they need not have mentioned this Matter to their Confederacy, who had no business with it,—that he would again lay the Matter before Government, and use all his endeavors for their satisfaction,—that they Should patiently wait without attempting any act of Violence, which wou'd be highly Resented, and that he was Authorized to tell them that Klock's Conduct was disagreeable to the King.

When Sir William's immediate Deputy Col. Guy Johnson reasumed the affairs of the Congress after the Interment of Sr Wm the Canajoharies reminded him of their Speech concerning Klock, and were answered with Assurances that the same Should be laid before Government.

Taken from the Records

G Johnson
Super Intendt of Indn. Affairs.

me that you shall be able to convince those Indians who are endeavoring to create this Confederacy, that we have a sufficient number who are well attached to His Majestys Interest, and who will be eager on such an occasion to give testimony of their fidelity and attachment

I am &ca.

Sir Wm Johnson. **Dartmouth.**

Sir William Johnson to the Earl of Dartmouth.

[Plantations General (S. P. O.) CCLIX.]

Johnson Hall April 22. 1773

My Lord

In consequence of my Transactions last year & proceedings which I transmitted in October to your Lordship, the cheif Sachems & principal Warriors of the Six Nations arrived here the 6th Instant and laid before me the issue of their proceedings since that time, a Copy of which I have now the honor to enclose to your Lordship

Their first step was to send Belts to the Emigrants from their confederacy living on Ohio, who being removed to so great a distance, and residing in the Neighbourhood of disaffected Tribes that are no real friends to the Six Nations became alienated from the latter, followed other councils & were guilty of many irregularities, they were therefore required to remove from thence, and settle near their own confederacy, which at their present distance can not be made accountable for their own actions, they then called a Council at Onondaga, where they at length brought the Senecas to a sense of their misconduct, and obtained from them the strongest assurances that they would in future pay due regard to the true Interests of the Confederacy, which they have likewise repeated to me, and the whole have united in declaring their resolution, to send once more to those troublesome Nations about the Ouabash and in case it is disregarded to manifest their attachment to the English by bringing those people to a due submission, and that they will without delay hold a General Congress on all these points, they likewise spoke much on the irregularities committed in Trade and declared them to be a principal cause of most of the late disturbances. I have in former letters to His Majestys Ministers pointed out the evil occasioned by the residence of those emigrants from the Six Nations in the midst of a disaffected & troublesome people, who dislike a Confederacy on whom they have been so long dependent, and seduce their people whenever it is in their power, and who are perpetually forming alliances for very bad purposes, But whatever steps are taken for War by the Indians in the Northern Department (particularly to the Northward of Virginia) they can have little effect so long as the Six Nations are unanimous, and preserve their fidelity, Indeed the Countenance of the latter would have a greater effect than all their arms, but of this I am not apprehensive whilst due care is taken to preserve them in His Majestys Interest, and greivances removed, their superior importance at present arises in a great measure from their situation next to our portages, & Frontier Settlements, and qualifies them for acting the part of our best friends, or most dangerous enemies. From these considerations, the attachment of the Senecas is of the greatest consequence particularly of the upper Senecas who alone have been suspected, they lye nearest to our grand communications and the Portage near Niagra, they are near as numerous as all the rest of the Six Nations and they lye next to other Nations who thro' means of the Emigrants endeavor to render them discontented Indeed one half of the Senecas have behaved with great fidelity, but the Example of the Rest may have an evil effect upon them, & this conduct of the upper Senecas will not at all appear surprizing on perusing the accounts I have formerly given of its motives and Causes. In short they had always emissaries from, and were loaded with favors by the French as appeared clearly by the Books of accounts which fell into my hands when I had the honor to take possession of Niagra, which very important Fortress I beleive we should have found it very difficult to reach, much less to reduce with so small, an army, & without a single vessel on Lake Ontario, but for the secrecy and fidelity of the Senecas at that time, who having had a little misunderstanding with the French, I took care to improve it by shewing them the many advantages they would derive from its being reduced, and by Promises concerning fair Trade &c^{a} which alltho' I was authorized to make, I am sorry to say it was never yet in my power to perform with effect For all these reasons, I was well pleased to hear the Senecas give me such assurances as they have lately done & shall do all in my power to improve their present disposition, as it will induce the rest of the confederacy to act with more spirit, and strengthen their attachment to us, when they find that their advice has succeeded with the upper Senecas & that their Interests are no longer separate—and as I purpose to hold a congress with the Shawanese Delawares Hurons &c^{a} next month I shall then endeavour to put a stop to their pernicious practises with the Six Nations Emigrants &c. as well as to other more dangerous matters, after which I shall do myself the honor of writing to your Lordship

I have the honor to be with the highest Esteem—My Lord

Your Lordships most obed^{t}

& very humble Servant

W JOHNSON

Proceedings of Sir William Johnson with the Six Nations.

[S. P. O. Plantations General, CCLIX.]

At a Congress with the Cheifs of the Six Nations Held at Johnson Hall on Wednesday Ap 7. 1773.

PRESENT—Sir William Johnson Bt Superint^{dt} &c
Daniel Claus } Deputy Agents
Guy Johnson } Deputy Agents
Sir John Johnson Kn^{t}
Richard Shuckburgh Esq^{re} Sec^{ry} to Indian Affrs.
John Blagge Esq^{re} Clk of the County of Tryon
John Dease Esq^{re} & several other Gentm^{n}.

Teyawarunte Speaker of Onondaga addressed Sir William Johnson on behalf of all the Six Nations present and after performing the Ceremony of Condolence according to the usual form delivered— 3 Strings of Wampum

Johnson Hall, April 22d 1773

My Lord

In Consequence of my Transactions last year and proceedings which I transmitted in October to your Lordship, the Cheif Sachims and principal Warriors of the Six Nations Arrived here the Sixth Inst. and laid before me the Issue of their proceedings since that time, a Copy of which I have now the honor to inclose to your Lordship. —

Their first Step was to send Belts to the Emigrants from their Confederacy living on Ohio, who being removed to so great a distance, and residing in the Neighbourhood of disaffected Tribes that are no real Freinds to the Six Nations became alienated from the latter, followed other Councils & were guilty of many Irregularities, they were therefore required to remove from thence, & settle near their own Confederacy, which at their present distance cannot be made Accountable for their Actions, they then called a Council at Onondaga, where they at length brought the Senecas to a sense of their Misconduct, and obtained from them the strongest Assurances that they would in future pay due regard to the true Interests of the Confederacy, which they have likewise repeated to me, and the whole have united in declaring their Resolution, to send once more to those troublesome Nations about the Ouabash, and in case it is disregarded, to manifest their Attachment to the English by

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Dartmouth

By bringing these People to due Submission, and that they will without delay hold a Generall Congress on all these points, they likewise spoke much on the Irregularities committed in Trade, & declared them to be a principal Cause of most of the late Disturbances. —— I have in former letters to his Majesty's Ministers pointed out the Evil, occasioned by the residence of those Emigrants from the Six Nations in the midst of a disaffected & troublesome people, who dislike a Confederacy on whom they have been so long dependant, and seduce their People whenever it is in their power, and who are perpetually forming Alliances for verry bad purposes, But whatever steps are taken for War by the Indians in the Northern Department (particularly to the Northward of Virginia) they can have little Effect so long as the Six Nations are unanimous, and preserve their fidelity, Indeed the countenance of the latter would have a greater effect than all their Arms, but of this I am not apprehensive whilst due care is taken to preserve them in his Majesty's Interest, and Grieviances removed, their Superior Importance at present arises in a great measure from their Situation next to our portages, & Frontier settlements, and qualifies them for acting the part of our best Friends, or most dangerous Enimies, from these considerations, the Attachment of the Senecas is of the greatest consequence, particularly of the upper Senecas who alone have been suspected, they lye nearest to our Grand Communications & the Portage near Niagra, They are near as numerous as all the rest of the Six Nations, and they lye next to other Nations, who thro means of the Emigrants — endeavor to render them discontented. Indeed one Half of the Senecas have behaved with great fidelity, but the Example of the rest may have an evil effect upon them, this Conduct of the upper Senecas will not at all appear surprising upon perusing the Acc.t I have formerly given of its Motives & Causes. ——

In short they had always Emissaries from, and were loaded with Favors by the French, as appeared clearly from the Books of Accts, which fell into my Hands when I had the honor to take possession of Niagra, which verry Important Fortress I believe we should have found it verry difficult to reach, much less to reduce with so small an Army, & without a single Vessel on Lake Ontario, but for the secrecy & fidelity of the Senecas at that time, who having had a little Misunderstanding with the French, I took care to improve it by shewing them the many Advantages they would derive from its being reduced, & by Promises concerning fair Trade &c which altho I was authorized to make, I am sorry to say it has never been yet in my power to perform with Effect. —

For all these reasons, I was well pleased to hear the Senecas give Me such Assurances as they have lately done, & I shall do all in my power to improve their present disposition, as it will induce the rest of the Confederacy to act wth. more Spirit, and strengthen their Attachment to Us, when they find that their Advice has succeeded with the upper Senecas, & that their Interests are no longer seperate. — And as I purpose to hold a Congress with the Shawanese Delawares Hurons &c next Month, I shall then endeavor to put a stop to their pernicious practices with the Six Nation Emigrants &c, as well as to other more dangerous Matters, after which I shall do myself the Honor of writing to Your Lordships. —

I have the Honour to be with the Highest Esteem,
My Lord,
Your Lordships most Obedient
and verry Humble Servant
W Johnson

At a Congreſs with the Chiefs of the Six Nations Held at Johnson Hall on Wednesday April the 7th 1773.

Pres.t Sir William Johnson Bart. Superintend.t &c

Daniel Claus }
Guy Johnson } Esq.rs Dep.y Ag.ts
Sir John Johnson Kn.t
Richard Shuckburgh Esq.r Secr.y to Indian Affairs.
John Blagge Esq.r Clk of the County of Tryon
John Dease Esq.r & sev.l other Gentlemen.

Teyawarunte Speaker of **Onondaga** addreſsed Sir William Johnson on behalf of all the Nations present, and after performing the Ceremony of Condolence according to the usual form delivered — 3 Strings of Wampum.

Sir William then after acquainting them that he was unwilling to give them any delay in proceeding to Buſineſs, repeated what they said, as is usual, and then returned the Ceremony of Condolence on the part of the English in due form, after which he delivered them 3 Strings.

Sir William then added that as they had been detained for some days until all their Chiefs came to the Council fire, & as the customary forms were now finished, he was ready, and desirous that they should proceed immediately to buſineſs.

Teyawarunte

Seyawarunte then, on behalf of the rest, told Sir Wm that agreeable to his desire they were ready, and would immediately proceed to buſineſs. — He then repeated sundry past Transactions, particularly Sir William's Speech of October last, respecting their conduct towards the Twightwees, Piankashaws &c & aſsured him that the Six Nations had paid due regard thereto, & would faithfully deliver their Sentiments to him, to which they begged he would pay due Attention. — Gave a Belt of 6 Rows. —

He then proceeded.

Brother Warraghiyagey. —

We have thought very seriously on your former Speech, wherein you pointed out to us the many ill Consequences that must attend our People's entering into foreign Alliances, or aſsociating in Councils with those who have not paid due regard to their Engagements, or who were not of our natural Confederacy. — We have since taken this into full Consideration among ourselves, and we think your Advice so wholesome and friendly, that we are now sensible of the Errors into which some of our Nations were running, and have taken measures accordingly to prevent it by withdrawing from the Councils and Politicks of those People. — You may therefore depend that it is the unanimous Determination of all our People to follow yr Advice. —

A Belt of 5 Rows. —

Brothr Warraghiyagey. —

We are all very thankful to you for reminding us in your former Speech of our ancient Customs, and pointing out to us the Impropriety of the Conduct of some of our People in carrying on private Transactions, and neglecting the proper Fireplace. — We are now fully sensible of all this, and unanimously resolved to pay due regard to what you have said, by avoiding any bad Connections, and by the Openneſs of our Conduct, to which end, we shall undertake nothing without your Knowledge, and we flatter our selves that we shall act mutually together upon this Occasion in preserving entire all past engagements. —

A Belt of 6 Rows.

Brother. —

We have taken Notice of your having pointed out to us those things in which some of us have erred, and followed evil Councils, without considering our true Interest, and of your recommending it to the Mohawks, and Onondagas, as elder Branches of the Confederacy to bring the Senecas to a due Sense of their Inattention to its true Interests. — We thank you very kindly for your Advice, and do aſsure you on behalf of the Senecas, whose Chiefs are here present, that it has had the desired Effect, and that they are heartily sorry for their imprudent Conduct, which was wholly owing to Agaustarax, the old Chief (now deceased) who turned his face the wrong way, & did not act as the Door to our Confederacy to the Westward; — but the Senecas now aſsure you that they will no longer be misguided, but keep their faces towards the great Council fire at Onondaga, and this Place, and set a good Example to the rest by listening only to you, and their own Confederacy, and taking care that the Door to the Westward be not kept continually open to receive all bad News, as has been the Case. We likewise aſsure you on behalf of the whole Confederacy that we shall pursue the Measures we have already taken for bringing our People from the Scattered Villages, within the Pale of the Confederacy, to which end we have sent to Kayashota the

Chief on Ohio, and the People there, to direct them to pay due regard to what was recommended to them, – And in this we declare, that we are sincere, of which the Senecas give you aſsurance by this Belt.

A large Belt of 8 Rows.

Brother.

We embrace with pleasure your advice to cultivate the friendship of the English, and strenghten the Union between us. – be aſsured we shall testify to all Nations, our firmneſs therein, pay due regard to all our old engagements with you, and bring any Offenders among us to a Sense of their Duty. — Thoroughly persuaded that you speak for our Interest, and having for many Years experienced your Knowledge of all our Nations, and your Capacity to advise us to what will best tend to our Happineſs, we likewise by this Belt aſsure you on behalf of the Warriors, that they are determined to abide by, and enforce what we here promise, and to follow your good Councel, requesting that you will continue to us your Advice, and aſsist us in the Undertaking.

A large Belt of 11 Rows.

Brother.

So soon as the Meſsengers return from our own People on Ohio, we shall then as a unanimous body call a General Council at our own great Fire place at Onondaga, and summon the Twightwees Piankashaws, and other troublesome Nations to appear, and answer for their Conduct. we have already called upon them twice, and agreeable to our own antient Customs shall do so the third time, before we Strike: but should they then neglect us, you may be aſsured we shall fall upon them, and shew them their folly, and our Attachment to the English, who, we believe have suffered much from them to the Southward; and to give them an Opportunity of making proper Atonement, we prefer this Delay to any harsh measures, unless we find them irreclaimable — But, Brother, we must observe to you, and we request it may be seriously considered that the misconduct of these Nations, ~~that is to Say those to the South West~~ is much owing to the English themselves: for these Nations were never hearty, and some of them, not even pretended friends to the English. Yet the English Traders, and also, the French have of late Years rambled in great numbers all over this Country, for the sake of Gain, and are but too often guilty of frauds which inflame their Resentment. — In the French time, their Traders rambled in that manner: they were often plundered, and killed; but the French did not resent it, knowing it to be their own fault. — And we must again remark, as we have often done lately, that there is no certain way of preventing this, but by having fixed Posts, and proper Regulations for the Traders. whilst these subsisted, there were seldom any Outrages, the Indians were better pleased, and the Traders had Profit enough. we heartily wish that you would Consider these things as matters of great Importance to the general Peace.

A Belt of 7 Rows.

Brother

When we first saw the White People, and fastned their Ship to the great Tree, the Band of our Union, was a fair Trade. When we Strengthned our Alliance with the English, and fastened the Ship with an Iron Chain (there being one afterwards made of Silver) Trade was our mutual Object, and in most subsequent Treaties, it was provided that Trade should be plentiful, and that we should not be cheated; The Places of Trade were few, and the Traders were all well known; — the like Promise was made to us whenever Canada should be reduced. for a time it went on pretty well; but of late the Traders go about where they please, and sell at the most exorbitant Rates, — besides following us to our Hunting Grounds to take Advantage of our People by means of Liquor they bring with them. Of all this the Indian Nations complain; for as they live by Hunting, it becomes a more heavy Grievance to them, than it would do to others. we have often complained of this, but we find no Redress, & therefore if these repeated Impositions obstruct our good Intentions, the fault is not ours. — Brother, we beg you will consider our Case, so as that the Governors concerned may do what has been promised. — We must likewise sollicit the Favor of the General that both he, and you may lay our Hardships before the King, who I trust will relieve us. — In this hope, we now, on behalf of all our Confederacy, renew, strengthen, & brighten the Covenant Chain, and the Senecas particularly assure you that they, and all their Dependants, do now take hold of it, and brighten the same, firmly resolving to contribute all their endeavors, in Conjunction with the rest of the Confederacy, to keep it bright, hoping that you will be assisting therein, for our mutual Interest, and the Preservation of Peace. —

A large Covenant Chain
Belt, with 12 Squares, 4 Rows. —

Sir William answered them that he had given due Attention to what they had said, and wou'd give them an Answer thereto tomorrow; then gave them Pipes, Tobacco, and some Liquor, after which they withdrew to their sev^d. Encampments. —

The day following, the Indians had several Conferences among themselves, and therefore were not assembled 'till the day next succeeding.

At

At a Congreſs with the Six Nations Held at Johnson Hall on Friday April the 9th 1773.

Present as before.

Sir William Johnson addreſsed the Indians as follows — viz.

Brethren of the Six Nations.

I have heared, and fully considered all you said to me yesterday, and am glad you remember so well my Speech of last Autumn. As the Purport of your three first Belts is nearly the same, I answer them with this Belt, aſsuring you that the regard, you say you have paid to my Advice & Admonitions is highly pleasing to me, — and as I advised you to Shake off all Connections which were foreign to your true Interests, so I expect that it will appear by your Actions, that you have done so, which you will find to be to your Advantage.

A Belt.

Brothers.

It gives me great Satisfaction to hear that the Mohocks, and Onondagas, agreeable to my Advice, have brought the Senecas the third elder Branch of the Confederacy to their proper Senses, in which, through the Advice of the rest, and the good Councils, I shall give them, I hope they will remain: and I am well pleased to hear the same strengthened by their present Declaration, and Promises. — I am not ignorant, that Aguastarax, and several others of that Nation, sought Interests foreign to yours, and that he was highly criminal in sending, and receiving bad Belts, acting therein, as your general Enemy, though it was his Duty, as the Western Door of the Six Nations, to take care that nothing dangerous should enter. At the same time, I do not yet find much Satisfaction concerning those bad Belts, which certainly are still lurking some where, and which I expect to see very soon, to confirm my Opinion of the Senecas good Intentions. You act very wisely in the Steps you have taken to bring your Straggling People within the immediate Influence of your Confederacy, as they are at present exposed to bad Advice, and negligent of your Directions. I persuade myself that Kayashota, their Chief will Cooperate with you therein, and I hope to see it soon effected.

A Belt.

Brothers.

I hear with Satisfaction that you Repeat your Resolution of bringing all Refractory Members of your Confederacy to Order, that you will act with firmness, and that you appear thoroughly satisfied that my Advice is wholesome, and good, and I am greatly pleased to hear the Declaration of the Warriors to support & Strengthen the same, which I expect they will do with becoming Spirit, according to the Design intended.

A Belt.

Brothers.

You tell me that as soon as all matters are settled with your People at the Ohio, you will call a General Council at Onondaga, and summon the Twightwees, and their Adherents to attend the same, for the last time. I do not doubt but that in this, you imagine you act right, and agreeable to ancient Custom; but you must be sensible that I also well know your ancient Customs, that I cannot be mistaken in them, having committed them all to Writing an Age ago, when they were better understood, than they are at present, and from which, I assure you, that there is no necessity of your using so much Delicacy with People, who so little deserve favor from your hands, especially as you are in a great measure accountable for the Actions of those who have been always deemed your Dependants; _ and perhaps it were better that you brought them to reason than, by tollerating their Depredations, to expose them to the powerfull Arm of the English, who will certainly no longer suffer them to Act, as they have done with Impunity._ Whatever, therefore you do, should be done quickly, before the People are so involved in Guilt, that the Resentment of the English cannot be restrained. _ I can hardly think that their Conduct is merely owing to Abuses in Trade, but rather to a malevolent Spirit, & evil Communication _ and as to the Establishments of Posts for Trade, I have long since acquainted you that his Majesty has left the Trade free, and Open, with a View, that you should find plenty of Goods; at the same time that he recommended it to each of the American Governments to fall upon such Regulations, as would prevent any Abuses therein, which they promise to do, & which I have often recommended; and I shall still Continue, as far as is in my power, to recommend the necessary Establishments for that Purpose. _ A Belt. _

Brothers._

I am well acquainted with the Nature, and Terms of your first Treaties with the English, and that Trade was always considered as an Article of much Importance. neither can I find, that it was ever with held from you. After the Reduction of Canada, it was greatly enlarged by the addition of many new Traders, whereby Goods were plenty, and cheap. Among such a Number, there are doubtless some that will deceive you, especially so long as you Continue your Passion for that Liquor, which is the Source of so many Evils. — There is however no doubt, that when the Colonies are agreed as to the nature of the Regulations, Provision will be made against the Abuses you complain of, and in the mean time I Recommend it to you to endeavor at Reforming yourselves by a more moderate Use of that Liquor, in which Case the Traders will bring less into your Country, and you will be more on your Guard against their Frauds, whilst I use my endeavors, as I have hitherto done, to procure you the Salutary Establishments you require. —

Your Case has been already laid fully before the Governors, and I can assure you that the Governor of this Province, and those of the other Colonies that are concerned in the Regulations for the Indian Trade are heartily disposed to promote every thing in your favor. — The General who commands the Army, is also much your friend, and as he is shortly to go over the Great Lake, he will, I persuade myself, recommend these Points to the Great King who is heartily disposed to protect, and favor all faithful Indians. —

I thank you for Renewing, and Brightening the ancient Chain of Friendship, and particularly in that the Senecas are so wise as to take a firm Hold of it. Whilst they value themselves, and their Confederates, I hope they will retain it firmly, and I expect that as they are the Western Door, they will hereafter take Care that they admit nothing among them that may give Offence to those in the Middle, or at the East end of the Chain, but hearken to good Advice, and follow it. —

To promote all this, I do now on behalf of the Great King, and his Subjects, Renew, Strenghten, and Brighten this Chain, assuring you that it Shall be held fast, and kept bright on the part of the

English and that it shall last for ever, if you do your part to preserve it. I hope you have too much Sense of its value to expose it to any Danger, and that you will treasure up my advice as essential to y.^r happiness.

Gave a large Covenant Chain Belt
13 Rows black with white Squares.

To which after a little Consultation the Indians answ.^d by their Speaker.

Brother.

We thank you for what you have now done, and for acquainting us with the good Inclination of the Governors of this and the other Provinces. We are sorry that the General, who has been so long known, and so kind to us, is going away, as we have a great friendship for him. — At the same time we think it will be a good Opportunity for laying our Grievances before the Great King, and we hope that the General will continue his friendship to us when he gets over the Great Lake, from the Success of which we have much Expectation.

Saturday April the 10th. — The Indians being all assembled, Serihoana Chief of the Senecas of Chenussio then addressed Sir William Johnson.

Brother Warraghiyagey.

If we were not sufficiently explicit regarding the bad Belts, it was really because we thought it needless, as they are no longer of force, nor shall they ever rise to disturb the Peace. It is very true that after having made repeated Complaints ineffectually concerning the Murder of of several of our friends to the Southward, as well as at Juniata we were so exasperated, and alarmed lest the English had a general Design against us, that Some of our People sent Belts thro' the Nations, advising them to have the Hatchet in readineſs in case of an Attack, or Notice from us. — These Belts were sent far South, and one is now in the Cherokee Country, but our bad Advisers are now dead, and our Resolutions now changed, as a Proof of which we shall immediately send for that Belt, and bring it in Case it is not taken up by Kayaſhota, as he was directed, and have now entered heartily into the Meaſures recommended by you and the Confederacy, and aſsure you, by this Belt, that we shall faithfully observe the Same. — A Belt. —

Sir William then told the Chenuſsios that they were right in making a plain Declaration respecting the Belts especially as it was accompanied by Aſsurances of fetching them away and acting a different part in future, all which he expected to see fully performed, as an Atonement for the Offence. —

He then acquainted them with the Intelligence he had just received from the General respecting the Conduct of the Powtawatamies, Six of whom, and three Squaws, last December, had wounded, and attempted to murder Mr. Vanslyck, a considerable Trader at St. Joseph's, killed one of his People, and dangerously wounded another, — and that one Indian was killed, and two wounded. — That Vanslyck was obliged to fly, leaving Goods of his and Mr. McCombs, of above £1500 value behind them. —

N. [~~That~~ the French were in fault on the Occasion, & particularly,

~~that~~ Louison Chaville a very bad Man who was married to a Squaw, encourages these Murders.] Sir William observed that the unparalleled ill Conduct of these Powtawatamies would no longer pass unresented, and asked them what they thought of it.

After some Consultation among themselves, they returned their Answer, declaring their detestation of such Proceedings, which they said were much owing to the French, who ought to be removed out of that Country. At the same time, as a Proof of their Aversion for the Powtawatamies on account of their repeated ill behavior, they the Six Nations, were ready to resent it, to which end, they delivered Sir William a Belt from them to the Powtawatamies to be sent by his Express to the Commanding Officer at Detroit, acquainting these Indians, that their Conduct towards the English reflected on all the Nations, that they Advised them immediately to desist, and Repent heartily of what they had done, otherwise that they, the Six Nations would think themselves under the Necessity of Compelling them thereto by force, and that without delay. — they therefore desired to have an Answer soon.

Sir William told them that he would forward their Belt, as they desired, and after acquainting them that he intended meeting the Shawanese, Delawares, and Hurons in May put an end to the Congress. and on Monday following delivered them out the Present.

A true Copy &c.

G Johnson D. Agent
as Secrety.

in the absence of Mr Shuckburgh,
who retd home at the Close of the Congress.

These, sir, are in general the propositions which have been suggested by the Board of Trade and approved by His Majesty in Council, and it will be a great pleasure to me to find by your report that they are satisfactory to all parties and can be carried into execution without difficulty or discontent. *Draft.* [C.O.5/1104, fo. [illegible]27]

XLVII

Sir William Johnson to Earl of Dartmouth

22 April, Johnson Hall

My Lord, in consequence of my transactions last year and proceedings which I transmitted in October to your lordship, the chief sachims and principal warriors of the Six Nations arrived here the sixth inst. and laid before me the issue of their proceedings since that time, a copy of which [above, No. XLIV] I have now the honour to enclose to your lordship.

Their first step was to send belts to the emigrants from their confederacy living on Ohio, who being removed to so great a distance and residing in the neighbourhood of disaffected tribes that are no real friends to the Six Nations, became alienated from the latter, followed other councils and were guilty of many irregularities. They were therefore required to remove from thence and settle near their own confederacy, which at their present distance cannot be made accountable for their actions. They then called a council at Onondaga, where they at length brought the Senecas to a sense of their misconduct and obtained from them the strongest assurances that they would in future pay due regard to the true interests of the confederacy, which they have likewise repeated to me, and the whole have united in declaring their resolution to send once more to those troublesome nations about the Ouabash, and in case it is disregarded to manifest their attachment to the English by bringing these people to due submission, and that they will without delay hold a general congress on all these points. They likewise spoke much on the irregularities committed in trade and declared them to be a principal cause of most of the late disturbances. I have in former letters to His Majesty's ministers pointed out the evil occasioned by the residence of those emigrants from the Six Nations in the midst of a disaffected and troublesome people who dislike a confederacy on whom they have been so long dependent and seduce their people whenever it is in their power, and who are perpetually forming alliances for very bad purposes. But whatever steps are taken for war by the Indians in the northern department (particularly to the northward of Virginia) they can have little effect so long as the Six Nations are unanimous and preserve their fidelity. Indeed the countenance of the latter would have a greater effect than all their arms, but of this I am not apprehensive whilst due care is taken to preserve them in His Majesty's interest and grievances removed. Their superior importance at present arises in a great measure from their situation next to our portages and frontier settlements, and qualifies them for acting the part of our best friends or most dangerous enemies. From these considerations the attachment of the Senecas is of the greatest consequence, particularly of the Upper Senecas who alone have been suspected. They lie nearest to our grand communications and the portage near Niagra, they are near as numerous as all the rest of the Six Nations, and they lie next to other nations who through means of the emigrants endeavour to render them discontented. Indeed one half of the Senecas have behaved with great fidelity but the example of the rest may have an evil effect upon them, and this conduct of the Upper Senecas will not at all appear surprising on perusing the accounts I have formerly given of its motives and causes. In short they had always emissaries from and were loaded with favours by the French, as appeared clearly from the books of accounts which fell into my hands when I had the honour to take possession of Niagra, which very important fortress I believe we should have found it very difficult to reach, much less to reduce, with so small an army and without a single vessel on Lake Ontario but for the secrecy and fidelity of the Senecas at that time, who having had a little misunderstanding with the French, I took care to improve it by showing them the many advantages they would derive from its being reduced and by promises concerning fair trade etc., which although I was authorized to make I am sorry to say it has never been yet in my power to perform with effect.

For all these reasons I was well pleased to hear the Senecas give me such assurances as they have lately done, and I shall do all in my power to improve their present disposition as it will induce the rest of the confederacy to act with more spirit and strengthen their attachment to us when they find that their advice has succeeded with the Upper Senecas and that their interests are no longer separate. And as I purpose to hold a congress with the Shawanese, Delawares, Hurons etc. next month I shall then endeavour to put a stop to their pernicious practices with the Six Nation emigrants etc. as well as to other more dangerous matters; after which I shall do myself the honour of writing to your lordship. *Signed.*
[C.O.5/74, fo. 121]

XLVII

Affidavit of Nathan Nichols[1]

24 April, New York

City and County of New York. Nathan Nicholls of the township of Socialborough near the banks of Otter Creek to the westward of the Green Mountains in the County of Charlotte and Province of New York, being duly sworn, maketh oath that the deponent with many other persons seated themselves upon and near the banks of the said Otter Creek about three years ago and purchased their farms in the said township of Socialborough from the owners thereof under a patent issued by the colony of New York.

That the deponent has cultivated and improved about thirty acres of the lands so by him purchased, built a little house thereon, sowed nine acres of wheat and one acre of rye last fall and fenced the same, and elsewhere on the west side of Connecticut River, which are very numerous, would behave themselves very well, they the said Brown, Quishman and Raws or Ross would have the Regulators to take care of this deponent and those holding under New York titles, as Seth Warner of Bennington, who is called the Captain of the Regulators since he cut Justice Munro's head last summer, was up at Otter Creek the week before this conversation passed and promised (as is said) that he would bring his Green Mountain Boys with him there if necessary. To which the deponent replied that he had nothing to do either with them, Warner or his Green Mountain Boys, but was at the same time determined to preserve his farm and improvements; upon which the said Brown and those connected with him (to wit) Quishman and Raws or Ross pulled down the deponent's house and set fire to and burned the most of his the deponent's fences and threatened to drive in swine to eat up his grain, the produce whereof was the only means the deponent had to support himself with the ensuing year.

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[1] Enclosed in Governor's Tryon's letter of 6 July 1773 to Dartmouth, Vol IV, No. 1340.

That notwithstanding the declarations and menaces of the rioters in that part of the country, this deponent is fully satisfied that they could be reduced to due order all over the country with one hundred men of resolution well-armed. And further this deponent saith not. *Signatory*, Nathan Nichols.

Sworn this twenty-fourth day of April 1773 before me, George D. Ludlow. *Copy*, attested 30 April 1773, by G. Banyar, deputy clerk of Council. [C.O.5/1104, fo. 365]

XLIX

Lieut.-General Thomas Gage to Earl of Dartmouth (*No.* 9)

5 May, New York

My Lord, I have had the honour to receive your lordship's dispatch of the 3rd of February, No. 8 [above, No. XX].

Your lordship's apprehension that the admission of a garrison into Fort Pitt provided by the Assembly of Pennsylvania might hereafter be the foundation of a claim on the part of the proprietaries to include lands within their province to which they have no just title, I confess is an objection to the measure which did not strike me. I have seen on many occasions colony-troops put in forts far beyond the limits of their respective provinces without forming pretensions of the kind, and the district of Fort Pitt has been considered within the limits of Pennsylvania. The Assembly has not raised troops nor did I imagine they would for the reason given your lordship in my letter No. 3 [Vol. IV, No. 796]. I would hope also that the evacuation of Fort Pitt can be of no real detriment to the establishments to be formed in that country in the light of affording them protection, it not being possible for a fort to protect settlements at a distance from its walls. Where people settle compactly and close together and stockade their village, they may defend themselves or if too weak in themselves assistance may be given them; but where they are straggled from five to fifteen or more miles from each other over a vast tract of country, as is the case of most of our settlements, all the forts we have supported at a vast expense were not able to defend them from incursions and the savages have broke up our settlements with as little difficulty as if no forts had been erected.

With regard to the reduction of our establishments on the Mississippi which your lordship apprehends may give a greater scope to the intrigues of our neighbours, I will beg leave to observe that though we have heard a great deal of the intrigues of the French amongst the savage nations it has never been discovered that the government of Louisiana has abetted them, and it seems to be as much consistent with the interest of that government as our own to keep the Indians quiet and peaceable. But I apprehend the competition for trade has induced the French on both sides the river to excite the Indians against us: the British traders accuse them of it and in return they accuse us of the like practices and of setting the Chikesaws, whose war-parties they have seen kindly received by us at the Ilinois, to strike both themselves and the Indians of the Ouabache. The trade of the Mississippi, except of the upper parts from whence a portion may go to Quebec, goes down that river and has as well as everything we have done on the Mississippi as far as I have been able to discover tended more to the benefit of New Orleans than of ourselves. And I conceive it must be the case as long as the commodities of the Mississippi bear a better price at New Orleans than at a British market and that the merchants of that place can continue to sell their goods at lower rates than the British traders. Your lordship has been acquainted with the cause of the discontent amongst the Western Indians, which though chiefly levelled against the Six Nations we may be deemed to be concerned with them, and your lordship will learn by the proceedings at a congress held with the Six Nations on the 7th of last month that they determined to bring the western tribes to reason. But Sir William Johnson informs me by letter that their promises appear conditional and they expect some regulations respecting trade. Much has been said about the mode of making regulations and what they should be; and it's difficult to form a plan that would please the whole. The method now approved by the Six Nations was for a time observed and the officers then commanding at the posts on the Upper Lakes were threatened with prosecutions by the traders and with hostilities by the Indians if the trade was restricted and the traders prevented going into their villages and attending their hunting-parties according to custom. Sir William Johnson's design to hold a congress with the Shawnese and Delawares I hope will produce good effects, and if extended lower down to comprehend the tribes on the Ouabache might be still more useful; they complained some time ago of being neglected and a conference with them might help to remove the ill humours of all the nations in that quarter.

There was a report when the 60th regiment sailed to the West Indies that the men of that corps employed by Captain Holland were discharged, but I received no advice of it from him or heard more of it till the receipt of your lordship's letter. The battalion they belong to represented some years ago the hardship of paying and clothing men they had not seen for several years and I proposed to send them to their battalion and to provide a like detachment from the regiments stationed nearest to the places where Captain Holland should be employed; but he objected to that mode because he would have frequently fresh men useless to him till taught their business. I stated the affair afterwards to His Majesty's Secretary at War and enclose your lordship what I wrote on the subject [*Marginal note*: Not received] but receiving no instructions nor knowing that Captain Holland was under any difficulty I have not hitherto taken any step in the affair. I shall without delay settle it with him by one of the methods your lordship is pleased to point out, and am surprised he has never made any application to me.

Your lordship will be assured that I shall not leave my command till His Majesty's farther pleasure is made known and I rest in hopes that the foreign officers who have served in America will be capacitated to enjoy the marks of His Majesty's royal favour that their services shall entitle them to receive.

The regiments who are to be relieved from this country have received notice to be in readiness for that event and transports shall be sent as your lordship directs to receive the 29th regiment at St Augustine. I have ordered the company of said regiment on duty in the Island of New Providence to join their corps as soon as relieved by a company of the 14th, which I conclude at St Augustine as they sailed from St Vincent's about the middle of March. Fifty odd draughts from the 31st regiment left St Vincent's some days after the 14th had sailed and arrived here on the 2nd inst.

I have a bad report to make your lordship concerning the fort of Crown Point which from a letter from the commanding officer I conclude is totally consumed by fire. I have the honour to transmit your lordship the account [Vol. IV, No. 1177i] he gives me of the beginning and progress of the flames which is the best I am able to send your lordship of the event which must be an object of farther enquiry. There was about one hundred barrels of powder in the magazine when it blew up and a good deal of artillery on the ramparts, but the small arms were luckily removed in the winter and I hear most of the provision was saved. Except the stores and buildings that have been consumed the loss is not great, the fort was in a ruinous condition and not to be repaired, parts of it fell down every year and in a few years the whole would have tumbled. I have sent orders for the garrison to remain for the present in the storehouses where they have taken shelter and to search amongst the ruins for the artillery and everything else that can be of use which will be transported to Ticonderoga. *Signed*. [C.O.5/90, fo. 145]

Commissioners for Trade and Plantations to the King

6 May, Whitehall

May it please Your Majesty, Your Majesty having been pleased by your Order in Council of the 14th of August 1772 [Vol. V, No. LXXXII] to approve a report from the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs containing several propositions respecting the application made by the Honourable Thomas Walpole, Benjamin

JOURNAL OF DANIEL CLAUS

A.D.[1]

[*June 19 – July 27, 1773.*]

June 19th. 1773

left home 3 p.m. for Canada. got to Scheny. left that Sunday Eveng. got to Peoples,[2] 21st. got to Fort Edwd. 22d. Lake Geoe. 23d. no Craft from ye. Landg. Got Mr. Jones Boat arrived at the Landg. 11 p.m. 24th. dined wth. Mr. Feltham got to Crown point abt. Midnight, 25th. detained by the Comdg. Offr. on Acct. of fresh provs. left that wth. a fair Wind abt. Noon wch. blew all Morng. got to Rivr. au Sable 26th. blew hard crossing Bays Oskanondo[3] & Cumberland, after wch. the wind turned agst. us And we had hard work to get to ye. Landn. Taylors 27 to St. Jean abt. 2 p.m. saw Mrs. [ ] and Continued.

Memorandms. for Sumr. 1773 during my Stay in Canada — June 28th.

Arrived at Caghnawy. reced by all the Chiefs very joyfully, told me abt. settling thier Bounds. to yr. Satisfactn. &ca. Lamented Br. Guys Accdt.[4]

29. Misisqui Indns. abt. Mr. Matcaff.
Went to Montreal to pay my Visits, Colo.
Tempr.[5] laid up wth. the Gout.

30th. Returned & dined at Majr. Whartons[6] wth. some Officers recd. a Message by 2 Runners that the 6 Nats. were at the Cedars.[7] sent a Note to Colo. Templer.

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Claus Papers. Vol. 21. Diary No. 1.

[2] Peebles, home of the family by that name, later a tavern 3¾ miles north of Waterford, on the west bank of the Hudson River.

[3] Probably Ogharonde, a place on west shore of Lake Champlain north of Plattsburgh. See Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Place Names*, p. 45.

[4] The burning of Guy Park.

[5] Lt. Col. Dudley Templer of the 26th. regiment.

[6] Maj. John Wharton of the 60th. regiment.

[7] On the St. Lawrence River.

July 1st. Thom Wileman[8] & others went to meet the 6 Nats. Deps. gave them provs. wrote my Letters to Sr. Wm. & Mr. Cramahe,[9] Peter[10] dined with me.

2d. Mr. Scott & Rimington dined with me.

3d. Went to Montreal abt. Provs. & sent my Letters.[11]

4th. Returned from Montreal Aughquisas at my Lodging heard what they had to say.

5th. Went over the Rivr. to Caghnawy. to the Meeting a young Indns. dying of Consumn. prevented it.

6th. Last Night attacked with a Violent pain in my back wth. a fever just able to cross to the Meeting wch. begun with the Customary song of Condolance. then a large black Belt was given in behalf or Sr. Wm. to cover the grave of Oneaghrageghte and a white one by the 6 Nats. for Aghtaghqueesere and so proceeded with the usual Articles of ye. Ceremony consisting of 10 Belts & Strings the last was a large Belt whereby they told the Caghnaws. that the 6 Nats. had come to a Resolution to unite all those Nations that heretofore belongd to the Confederacy & English Governmts. in particular those who [had] by changing their former place of Abode.

and thereby becoming Allies to the french King & in a Manner, alienated themselves from their own Nation & former Alliance, however that by a successfull War the English conquered the french and took Canada from them whereby those Indns. that separated themselves from thier natural Friends & Allies fell [*once more*] under the English Governmt. again & having proposed to them the 6 Nats. to join the Confederacy some time ago it was recommended to the Warriors to look upon themselves for the future as one Body wth. those of the 6 Nats. that likewise the upper Senecas influenced by french Counsels became wavering & in a manner, detached Themselves from their Confederacy &

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[8] Thomas Wildman.

[9] Hector T. Cramahe, who became governor of Quebec in 1771.

[10] Peter Johnson, son of Sir William and Molly Brant, who was then at school in Montreal.

[11] Cf. letter of July 3, 1773, *Johnson Papers*, 12:1026.

the Eng^{sh}. Interest during the late War & till of late acted an unbecoming & unfriendly part but last Year they recollected themselves & saw their Error & unanimously desired to be reunited wth. the chief & Warr^{rs}. of the 6 Nat^{s}. [&] promising to would attend the Couns^{l}. fire at Onond^{a}. as formerly

The Belt.

The Caghnawageys considered ab^{t}. the Speech of the 6 Nations and were only puzzeld ab^{t}. the last Belt not remembring when they proposed to unite wth. them again and put off the Answer to that Belt, but answered the ceremonial part with thanking the 6 Nat^{s}. for the Compliment. I then crossed the Riv^{r}. to my Lodging. N. B. gave them a Treat wth. pipes Tobacco & a Dram.

Dined at Staceys[12] —

7th. A Canoe came over for me at 6 a.m. the Wind being too high I could not pretend to cross till ab^{t}. 11. when it blew less and I embarked but in the midle of the Riv^{r}. was pretty well toss'd ab^{t}. some of the Onotagoes being unwell gave them some Turlington The Caghnaw^{y}. chiefs sent for me to meet them being next they told me that the St. Francis Ind^{n}. Chief had sent a Complaint to them that the Warr^{rs}. had taken the Bag wth. Wamp^{m}. from them & they were without Authority or public Bus^{s}. that one Jos^{h}. Louis Gill was the cause of it. I told them that I expected the Abinaquis to be wth. me in ab^{t}. 3 Weeks Time and that I would summons Gill to come along to hear both Sides wth. w^{ch}. they were satisfied — They then came upon the S^{t}. Regis Affair & the Report Otkwand^{e}. & Saghseanag^{e}. made of S^{r}. W^{ms}. Answer to them w^{ch}. they s^{d}. was that S^{r}. W^{m}. told them that he was glad they were come that he could make nothing of the Caghnawageys Letter wrote to me and would Now throw it quite aside. —

That the Warriors & Women should not be admitted to the Council, but the chiefs only, and that they y^{e}. 2 Messen^{s}. should be the head Men in y^e^. Village. — I told them that I was present when S^r^. W^m^. gave his Answer to their Speech which referred them to the Letter I wrote & the Answer the chiefs sent me there upon ab^t^. the Abinaquis, y^t^. he disapproved of Women & a few Warriors overruling their Councils & recommended to the Chiefs To maintain their Authority, and not allow of such doings going on among them contrary to all custom; And lastly that if they could not put up with the Trader established at their place to indemnify him for his house &^ca^. before they sent him away. crossed the Riv^r^. something in better health than in y^e^. morn^g^.

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[12] John Stacey.

8^th^. The 6 Nat^s^. came to me this Morn^g^. to go to Town & wanted Tawan^nce^. to go along but he declined & I told them I had wrote Colo. Templer ab^t^. thier coming & that I should write to Perthuis[13] & desire him to attend them while in Town when they asked for something to eat & parted, After w^ch^. I told the Priest of S^t^. Regis w^th^. Ind^ns^. & Otquandagegate in order [*to*] Vindicate himself of what was reported of him in hav^g^. falsely delivered S^r^. W^ms^. Answer I could find by his hesitating & stammering that he delivered [—] it [*S^r^. W^m^.*] as much in his fav^r^. as he could & publicly declared himself to stand up for the The Priest w^ch^. occasioned a great Jealousy among the whole and the cheifs of the other side w^ch^. is now the strongest went away I desired them to stay and told them that I knew now of no other way towards a Reconciliation than to send away their priest, w^ch^. however they would not consent to [*neither*] when I told them I was at a Loss what to say but I could see the whole Jealousy proceeded from Otquandageghte & Saghseanug^e^. espousing the Priests cause & taking the Authority they [*did*] had had no right to and rejecting Soghdeghrawane a clever Speaker to be in the Council & even in y^e^. Village & setting themselves up after returning from S^r^. W^ms^. The Priest had a long Discourse with me. —

9^th^. The chiefs from Caghn^e^. came over represent^g^. to me that

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[13] Louis Perthuis, interpreter.

Sadeghr — was a very useful Man to them in Council & they therefore had appointed him Speaker for themselves & Aughquis^e^. Ind^ns^.

That they understood Otquandaghto took upon him to be chief w^ch^. they knew nothing off he being an Ind^n^. that had no certain place of Abode. I told them of the Medal Gen^l^. Carlton gave him w^ch^. they said was precedent, that there was no such thing as appointing a Chief among them without the Concurr^ce^. of the other Chiefs of the place he belonged to, in short they detest Atquand^e^. and Sagoghseanugeghte on Acco^t^. of their late Ambasade w^ch^. they say in Opposition of the Letter I wrote hav^g^. desired by them to desist from going every thing being annswerd thereby what they wanted. —

The 6 Nat^s^. returned from Montreal and I had a fine house full of them they laying all next to my Room it being wet weather.

10^th^.

The 2 Lewis's from S^t^. Francis came to me ab^t^. Bus^s^. the 6 Nat^s^. with me all day and very troublesom & expensive about dark they crossed to Caghnawagey, this Night a very heavy Night w^th^. Thunder & Lightning.

Finly Powder came to be put up at haneys in All the bad weather; Stanhouse import^d^. 13,000^lb^.

11^th^. Went to Montreal to church, the Lightning Struck in S^t^. Lawr^ce^. Suburbs no thing burnt. a child of 10 years deaffen'd thereby. M^rs^. Simpson stabd herself w^th^. a pen knife in the pit of the Stomach last Evening she lives still but much in danger of her Life says the Devil put it in her head and begin^s^. to feel & dread the Terror of Death with horror. Rec^d^. a Letter from Gov^r^. Cramahe in Answer to mine whereby he wishes to see me.

12. Paid M^r^. Fuchet for Peters Board[14] 2 mo^ths^. 24 Doll^rs^. left Montreal in order to go to La Chin where I met Biron gave

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[14] Cf. the two letters of Dr. Huntley, Jan. 2, Mar. 6, 1773, regarding charges of M. Fouchet (or Foucher), for Peter Johnson's board and instruction. *Johnson Papers*, 12:1010-11, 1013-14.

him a paper. After Dinner set off for point Clare where I lodged, the Indns. got farther hired a Cart to Carry Provs. &ca.
13th. Abt. 8 a.m. came up with the Indns. after Breakfast crossed the Lake in order embarkd wth. Bunt, arrived at Caneghsd. abt. 1. p.m. marched in crying & proceded to the Council Room & after the first Cermony went to Dinner bought 2 Beefs.
14th. The Arundax & Shaghgs. call me for a Meeting & acquainted me wth. Makateo quels wanting to go to War agst. the Foxes & Desired me to stop him told them would consider abt. it, After Dinner the 6 Nats. spoke. —
15th. Two Canoes wth. one Cabet Interpr. to ye. Sakis from la Bay arrived gave me an Accot. of Du Charms[15] Affr. vizt. that the Missouri Indns. had killed 6 Spaniards whereupon the Comdg. officr. of Fort Louis 10 Miles below the Missouri demanded the Murderers when they sent him word that they would take his Scalp soon & carry of his Wife upon wch. he stopd trade from them. And tis said Du Charm went to ask his Leave to go among them under the pretext of being a frenchman Mr. Piernaas sent him off wth. a flea in his Ear, & Ducharm (according to his [acting] passion [*of*] Treason:) stole up the Missouri and supplied the Indns. wth. Amunn. &ca. the Spaniards havg. watched his Motions sent a party of 50 men as reportd. to take Ducharm but he like a Desperato defended himself wth. his party & the Canoe he, was in got off he receing a Wound in his thigh and His other Canoe & hands surrendered containing 84 packs. —

Went to meet the 3 Nats. of Caneghsady. attended by the Caghnaws. and gave them my Answer upon Yesterdays Information charging them strictly to keep their Warrs. quiet as there was now a general Tranquility prevailing among the Indns. Then speaking to them upon Govr. Cramahes Letter they answered that at the Surrender of Canada they were promised by Sr. Wm. Johnson in behalf of His Majy. to enjoy the same Priviledges they did under the french Governt. and perhaps greater, but they were now convinced of the Contrary by being forbid to pilot the Traders

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[15] Jean Marie De Charme.

Canoes and they must only [*be*] submit & be satisfied wth. what was enjoined them.

Then they the Arund^{x}. & Scagh — communicated to me their Intention of leaving their Village and establishing themselves ab^{t}. 10 Leagues above Carillon.[16]

16th. The chiefs of the Arund^{x}. & Ripis spoke again and said that [*formerly*] with regard to the pilotage of the Long Sault[17] before the white people were acquainted with it they were very glad to crave the Assistance of the Ind^{ns}. & could not have done without them & the Ind^{ns}. were then the only ones that piloted the white peoples Canoes; Now the white people Learned to pilot from the Ind^{ns}. they were so ungrateful & greedy as to cut them out of their antient privilidge that if they were thus oppressed & refused in every Request they must only look upon them as undere[ ]ving Children continually under their parents Rod & in a manner discarded & cast of from their parent & left to theirselves & their own childish & [*wild*] uncostraint inclinations.

17. Went to Montreal Col^{o}. Templer showed me a Letter from Col^{o}. Jones[18] Command^{g}. the Northern Distr^{t}. where he says that my presence was wanted at Quebec on Acco^{t}. of a Dispute between the hurons of New Lorette & their priest ab^{t}. the Lands of their Village.[19]

18th. Left Montreal for Quebec in Comp^{y}. of Mess^{rs}. Abbot, C:F: Scott Rimmington of R. Art^{ry}. & L^{t}. Shaw[20] of 10 Reg^{t}. poor Cap^{t}. Simson & wife went in an other Boat got this Night to Contre Coeur with Difficulty ab^{t}. 11 p.m.

19th. Got over Lake S^{t}. Pierre to the Post house of Mishis.

20th. Breakfasted at Three Rivers waited upon Maj^{r}. L'Arnauld[21] command^{g}. the 8 Reg^{t}. had a Concert before Dinner after w^{ch}.

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[16] On the Ottawa River.

[17] The LaChine Rapids.

[18] Lt. Col. Valentine Jones of the 52d regiment.

[19] See letter of Claus, Aug. 20, 1773, *Johnson Papers*, 8:866-67.

[20] Lt. Merrick Shawe of the 10th regiment.

[21] Col. Bigoe Armstrong commanded the 8th regiment of foot in 1773.

we set for Champlain 5 Leagues down, got among & in a heavy Thunder Shower.

21st. Got to Caroush abt. 10 p.m. a very dark rainy Night.

22d. Arrived at Quebec abt. 11 oClock a.m. waited on Colo. Jones. Govr. Cramahe, dined wth. Colo. Jones. —

23. Went to Govr. Cramahes abt. Business he told abt. the Hurons Dispute abt. their Village Lands, & on Indns. building a house in the middle of [*the*] a Road going to the Settlements of the Canadians. I told him would go to Lorette next Monday & enquire abt. those Matters.

24th. had several of the Hurons with me on a Visit gave them some Victuals &ca. —

25th. heard Mr. Montmoulin preach dined at Mr. Knellers wth. Colo. Jones, Caldwell, Majr. Do. &c.

26. July at a Meeting with the Lorette Indns. at their Village, the Speaker B [22], proceded as follows

Br. When our Ancestors lived at , la Grand Isle in Lake Huron our father the Priest acqud. us that he saw it inconvenient for him as well as us to remain there any longer and there fore proposed our moving to *(to where our lines were and That)* towards Quebec where we should want for neither Land or any thing else, Accordingly we agreed to his request & followed him & at our Arrival at [*Quebec*] Three Rivers he settled us there where we remained some Years wth. the Arundax the Original Indns. of that Country then the Priest who we then looked upon as our spiritual as well [as] temporal [guide] removed us to Sillery formerly called St. Mishel when the priest saw they had improvd the Environs of that place he removd them to Quebec, afterwards to the Island of Orleans, after wch. to St. Foy, then old Lorette and lastly to this place called New Lorette where we now have lived 75 Years and have been lookd after by all Indn. Nats. from Tadousack to Niagara as their Superiors and obeyed as such, we have invited the Mohawks to this Country & procured their Settlements being considered by all the Nations in the above Light & original Proprietors of this Country we are at present come to that disagreable period of not being Masters of one Foot of ground [*without*] being [*told*] shuffed back & forward like a foot Ball, altho the Preist assured us when he removed us hither That we should have what Land we pleased [*and*] for our Village and marked out The Spot himself w^ch^. we now claim 2 years before he built this church, w^ch^. we have showed you at your Arrival here this day as to writing Brother We See you cant imagine we should have secured our Claim by being entire Strangers to it [at present] and consequently were more so 40 years ago, all we have to rely on is our Memory & the Justice of our Superiors for we can w^th^. Truth assure you to be so as we tell you and the then living preist had the two Statues you see on. each side of him over the Church Door put up in token [*of*] and Confirmation of s^d^. Limits and some of our old People now living were present when the Spot was marked out to them by that Priest who 5 years after died. And Now Brother the present Priest [*leases*] Sells & leases away the Land his [*former*] Predecessor grant^d^. us for our Village and for ought we know may if in his Power entirely dispossess us of said Grant & let us shift for ourselves in the Wilderness,

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[22] Blank in manuscript. Beginning with this entry the journal is in pencil and quite indistinct.

Wherefore Brother we beg you will consider our Distress and do us that Justice w^ch^. you think we in Reason & Equity deserve. Recommending ourselves our Women & children to your Protection and Paternal Care, hoping that you will not expose your Children, to that Dilemma of being driven out of house & home.—

Gave a Belt —

The Speaker likewise spoke in behalf of their Warriors that they were hemmed in by the white people w^th^. Regard to their hunting Grounds at Tadousack &ca. w^ch^. was never the Case before so that in every respect their Situation was to be pitied, and they beg we may be supported in the Right & Priviledges granted us by our present Roy^l^. Sover^n^. & Father by his proclam^n^. of 7^t^. Oct^r^. 1763.—

Broth. We beg of you likewise to take into Consideration the house we were shewing you & that the Road may be turned by the side of it w^{ch}. amount to a very trifling spot of a few feet w^{ch}. when we begun to build the house we did not imagine would occasion the least Difficulty of having the Road turned the small space it requires. And therefore flatter ourselves that we the Hurons [*and a*] descendants of the most respectable Tribe of Ind^{ns}. in This Country may be gratified in this here trifleing & in our Opinion Just Request, and were we to die this Instant we we could not vary from what we related above relative to our Limits granted us by our spiritual fathers.

Then the old Speaker N [23] addressed himself to me saying that as their head Man [*Outaghtidarrio*] was dead he beg'd to recommend an other in his Place naming Simonet alias Onhegtiidarrio who by the unanimous Opinion & Consent of the whole Village was looked upon equal to the Task being a sensible Man & well acquainted wth. their Affairs

Gave a Belt

and said they had finished what they had to *say*.

Then another cheif spoke in behalf of thier Women & Children that their Condition was deplorable on Acco^{t}. of the Loss they sustained by The Frost w^{ch}. destroyed every Necessary of Life the Ground usually produced for them & were quite in Despair how to [*support*] keep themselves from perishing for want of food, and likewise beg'd for some Cloths for them & their Children. —

Recommending themselves to the Comisseration of the Gentlem^{n}. present likewise —

The Warriors beg'd for Amunition & Axes, towards their going on the hunt:

[24]Returned and dined at M^{r}. Colins s farm wth. M^{r}. Dunn Cap^{t}. Godwin Lieut. Shalk & their Ladies who accompanied me to Lorette. showed Geo^{e}. the Saw Mill

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[23] Blank in manuscript.

[24] At this point the journal is resumed in pen and ink.

27th. Went to Govern^{r}. Cramahes to examine into the Jesuits Title to Lorette, found they were given to them by one of the first Settler, in Canada M^{r}. Chissart afterwards confirmed by his Descendant M^{r}. du Chéne and they the Jesuits gave the Indians what Land they thought sufficient to build their Village upon and 40 Acres of Land for planting of Corn &^{ca}. wth. the proviso if they remained under the Guidance & Direction of the Jesuits otherwise to revert to the Society again And now their spiritual fathers indiferent [to] what becomes of the poor Ind^{ns}. under the English Governm^{t}. pretend that the Ind^{ns}. have forfeited their Claim to that Land by shaking off the Missionaries Awe and Inspection over them & by that means want re enter into the possession of the Lands granted to them & throw them upon our hands or perhaps want us to pay a Consideration from us for the same, w^{ch}. therefore ought to be thought of & remedied.

Expenses to Canada —

Schenec^{y}.	£ 2	18..—
& Ferry [ ] Niskayuma		4..—
Peoples s	–	10..8
Verners	..	7..—
N'Neals	–	11..6
Oats d^{o}.		1..6
Ferry [Nisk—]		2..—
Fort Edward or Smiths		8..—
half Way Breakfast		2..—
Waggon hire	£ 4..	–..—
Lake George M^{r}. Jones) passage incl. (	2..	10..6
Landing Tyond^{a}.		–14..6
Tiyondar^{a}. Tavern		– 2..—
Crown p^{t}. Tavern		– 8..—
Wine 10/. Lamb 7/		–17..—
Staats below Riv^{r}. Le Cole		–13..6

St. Johns Bill & Cartage		2..16..—
Do. Do. Servt. & Indns.	12/.	
by the way do. do. Jacobs	6/.	.. 8..—
At La praierie		
My Cart & horse	12/.	
		£17..12..2
Passage over Lake Champln.		2.. 8
		£20.. 0..2

Pd. Indns. 2 Dollrs. a piece
One third of the Exps. £ 6..13..4.

JOURNAL OF DANIEL CLAUS

A. D.[1]

[*Quebec, July 28 – August 10, 1773*]

Quebec 28th. July 1773. —
Answer to the Hurons of Lorette upon their Speech of Monday last.

Bretheren

I have considered upon your Speech you made me last Monday at your Town, and with Regard to your being prevailed upon by your Fathers the Jesuits to leave your original place of Abode in Lake Huron and follow him to live among the Whites in Canada. I cant say any thing abt. whether your change of habitation proved for the better or the worse you must look for that to Yourselves & the Priest. All I have to observe upon the Subject is that whenever a Nation or people quit their Native Country in order to settle & abide in any other Nation or Government they [ ] it is

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Claus Papers, Vol. I. These sheets are evidently a portion of the diary kept by Daniel Claus for report to Sir William Johnson. The diary is mentioned in one of Claus's letters to Sir William.

SPEECH OF SIX SHAWANESE INDIANS

Contemporary Copy[1]

Pittsburgh June 28th: 1773

Copy)

Six Shawanese Arrived here from Scioto being sent upon Business by their Chiefs; and delivered the following Speeches to Kyashuta and me.

Brethren,

We are sent by our Chiefs to this Place to enquire of you, by what Authority a Captain[2] from Virginia lately came to our Towns upon Scioto; Who told us he had been sent by the Governor of that Colony and their Wise-men to inform us that he was going to Survey Lands and make Settlements upon the Ohio, as low down as the Big Bones[3]; Which Country, he told us, had been sold to the White People by the Six Nations and Cherokees as far down the Ohio as the Mouth of the Chrokee River; and that as our several Nations had not been Considered when those Purchases were made, He had to inform us that a Large Sum of Money would be raised by the Virginians to give as a Compensation for our Consent — He likewise informed us that as soon as those Settlements were made, The Great Man from Virginia would come there to speak to us in person.

A Large String

Brethren,

Our Chiefs would not listen to this Virginia Captain, and therefore sent us to enquire of you by the Messuage which we have now delivered; But our Young Men advised our Brother

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[1] In British Museum. Additional Manuscripts, 21670. fo. 70, London, England; transmitted by General Haldimand.

[2] Captain Michael Cresap.

[3] Big Bone creek, a tributary of the Ohio, in Kentucky. "It is noticeable only for the large bones, and salt licks near it."—*The American Gazetteer*.

Warrior to keep above the Scioto, as the Wabash and Southern Indians were frequently passing and repassing below that against one another; and as the Wabash Indians were a foolish people, Mischief would certainly happen between them, should they meet, which might have an Evil Tendancy to the Chain of Friendship — Our Chiefs likewise sent us to inform you of this, that they might not be blamed hereafter for Neglecting any Thing in their Powers for the Good of the Peace and Tranquility of this Country.

A String.—

Keyashuta answered the above Messuage and informed them of the Speeches he received from Sir William Johnson last Fall; of the King's Intentions of forming a Colony upon part of the Lands purchased from the Six Nations in 1768 and at the same Time applauded their Wisdom in coming to enquire at this Place, where they could always hear their Father the King of Great Britain's Intentions towards them from Sir William Johnson who had the Care of all Indians in this Country, and that he hoped they would Continue to give every Intelligence and assistance in their Power to preserve the Friendship subsisting between their Brethren the White People and them.

A Belt

(Signed)

ALEX^R: M^C:KEE

INDORSED: Speech of Six Shawanese
at Pittsburgh 28th: June 1773
To Sir William Johnson Bar^t:
August 17th: 1773 —

Pittsburgh June 28th 1773 —

Six Shawanese arrived here from Scioto being sent upon Busineſs by their Chiefs; and delivered the following Speeches to Kiashuta and me. —

Brethern.

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A Large String.

Brethern,

Our Chiefs would not listen to this Virginia Captain, and therefore sent us to enquire of you by the Meſsage which we have now delivered; But our Young Men advised our Brother Warriors to keep up above the Scioto, as the Wabash and Southern Indians were frequently Paſsing and Repaſsing below that against one — another; and as the Wabash Indians were a foolish People, Mischief would certainly happen between them, should they meet, which might have an Evil Tendancy to the Chain of Friendship — Our Chiefs likewise sent us to inform you of this, that they might not be blamed hereafter for neglecting any Thing in their Powers for the Good of the Peace and Tranquility of this Country... —

A String —

Kiyashuta answered the above Meſsage and informed them of the Speeches he received from Sir William Johnson last Fall; of the King's Intentions of forming a Colony upon part of the Lands purchased from the Six Nations in 1768, and at the same Time applauded their Wisdom in coming to enquire at this Place, where they could always hear their Father the King of Great Britain's Intentions towards — them from Sir William Johnson who had the Care of all Indians in this Country, and that he hoped they would continue to give every Intelligence and Aſsistance in their Power to preserve the Friendship subsisting between their Brethern the White People and them —

A Belt. —

(Signed) Alexander McKee —

28. June 1773.—

1773

Mes Freres

Comme c'est avec beacoup de paine je vois que les Troubles de St Regis ne se jamais finiront vû que les Affairs de ce Village ne soint misent sur le pied de le Commencement de son Etablissement, qui le Misionair (: c'est a dire Votre pere d'apresent qui a etabli ce Endroit la) dirige les Affairs qui touchent le bon Ordre du Village si bien le bien etre de vos Ames et qui accepta aucune famille qui se ne vouloit pas soumettre a ses Regles la.

C'est pourquoi mes Freres mes Sentiments & mon Conseil est que vous qui demeurez a St Regis ayant eu la preuve d'une Tranquilité & parfaite Union

(continued p. 160)

pendent six ou sept Annés a ma Connoissance, ecouteroint et se soumetteroint dans des Affairs qui touchent votre paix & Salut si bien temporelle que spirituelle, a votre Missionaire qui vous a guidé du Commencement de votre sejour a St. Regis et qui jugera bien que de se point opposer et meler dans vos Affairs qui touchent la Fidelité & Soumission au Gouvernement d'Apresent et touts les bons Conseils que vous pourroint assembler pour le Bien public de votre Nation. ———

Enfin comme ceux Troubles se sont commencées que depuis qulques Traiteurs francois se sont mis la et ont inspirés des mauvais sentiments aux Sauvages mes sentiments sont que vous premier les Approbations de votre Missionaire dans ce Cas la qu'on doit croire plus capable de choisir des propres Sujets pour ce Endroit la que Vous. A la Chine le 17. Juillet 1773.

Dan Claus
chargé des Affes. Sauvages

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& resorting
to that place

Right of an exclusive Trade w.th all Ind.s w.th othe
priviledges w.ch they ever since enjoyed under great
~~& their~~ Advantages & profit. and consequently have ~~a~~ great
Influence with the said Ind.s. 16 1/2

~~Your Excell.cy~~ Carillon will be found the most
necessary & proper place of any in your District for establ
a Post, for many reasons but as it is supposed from the latest Accounts
from home that Ind.n Trade will be regulated different
from what it has been hitherto Nothing can be said as to th
appointing a Person ~~there~~ to inspect it

We ~~expect~~ have a Deputation of Canada Ind.s here and e
some more from Caghnaw.y to be present at a Treaty
of peace w.ch ~~will~~ is to be negotiated between the Cherokee
& the Northern Ind.s next Month under the Mediation
of Sr. Wm. Johnson.

S^{t}. Johns Bill & Cartage		2..16..—
D^{o}. D^{o}. Serv^{t}. & Ind^{ns}.	12/.	
by the way d^{o}. d^{o}. Jacobs	6/.	..8..—
At La praierie		
My Cart & horse	12/.	
		£17..12..2
Passage over Lake Champl^{n}.		2..8
		£20..0..2

P^{d}. Ind^{ns}. 2 Doll^{rs}. a piece
One third of the Exp^{s}. £ 6..13/.4.

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Claus Papers, Vol. I. These sheets are evidently a portion of the diary kept by Daniel Claus for report to Sir William Johnson. The diary is mentioned in one of Claus's letters to Sir William.

Belt

Brethn.

Your choice of the chief you proposed to me to assist Onhaghtidarrio I have no Objection agst. being sensible of his being capable to supply that place [*of him he is to replace*] well & I by this Belt confirm him as such

A Belt

As to your other Requests & Cravings I shall comply with as far as in my Power. Procured them 2 Barrls. of Pork & 3 of Flowr 50lb. of Powdr. & 100lb. Shot, half a Johs. to the Women and do. do. for fresh Meat and some Bread Pipes Tobacco & a Dram. —

They then thanked me for my Answer & what I gave them and departed. I went to Govr. Cramahes[2] and told him of my proceedings he had an Accot. by the post from Govr. Tryon[3] of his being to leave Montreal as yesterday with Mr. Watts,[4] Colo. Robinson,[5] Lord Drummond and Mr. Twitchy he had also a Letter from Capt. Wattas of 10 Regt. comdt. at Michilimc. abt. St. Luc[6] being wrongfully suspected of having sent Belts among the Inds. of a bad Import the Indn. who told it being drunk when he reported it, Capt. Wattas Opinion is that all the Murders &

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[2] Hector Theophilus Cramahé, lieutenant governor of Quebec.

[3] Governor William Tryon.

[4] John Watts.

[5] Beverly Robinson.

[6] St. Luc La Corne.

[*Inconveniences*] Nuesances in the upper Countrs. proceed from the Traders being allowed to go Wintering Says he demanded the Indns. who killed 2 Traders they being out on a Scalping party agst. the Saùteur. That the Traders complained of little Trade but he thought they had no reason. I Dined this day at Mr. Cramahes. [*and*]

July 29th. This Evening Colo. Robinson & Lord Drumd. arrived post having left the Governr. &ca. at Batiscan 18 Leags. from hence & they were to proceed by water accordg. abt. dark they arrived when I waited on them & Colo. Robn. introduced me, the Govr. had a touch of the Gout in his Elbow, wch. proceeded from rowing, went home

30th. Two Chiefs Limanet & Athanas with their Interpr. a french Metiss came to me & told me the Govr. had sent for them & they had a Letter from the Jesuit & desired me to go wth. them. I told them if the Govr. wanted me he could send when they came to the Govr. he kicked the Interpr. out adoors & then sent for me & told me that he could not bear these half breed Indns. & never would let them come near them. he said [he] had sent for these Chiefs abt. the removal of the house that if the owner would have removed quietly he'd pay for the Expce. of doing it otherwise he'd order it to be done at the Indns. Expence wch. he Desired I would tell these chiefs and they departed he then showed me the Condition upon wch. the Jesuits granted the 40 Acres wch. were as above related. The chiefs told me would wait at my Lodging when I met them. They in a pitifull manner repeated to me their Situation concerng. their Lands & said they intended if I approved to pe[ti]tion the King in person abt. it. I told them that the King left these Matters to Sr. Wm. to whom I should report the whole & they should have an decisive Answr. either this Winter or on my Return next Spring wch. satisfied them. Athanas delivered me his petition to Sr. Wm.

I walked with Govr. Tryon in the Garden told them of the hurons intendg. him a Visit, he sd. it was well, then told me would be glad if I could put off my Journey to Montreal till he went being now incapable to travel & some of his party were going off in a day or two. I told him wth. pleasure as I had finished wth. the Indns. at Montreal.

31. Went with Govr. Tryon &ca. to Mount Morency falls & viewed the french Lines[7] & Genl. Wolfs Plan of Attack upon them where he was repulsed, the Govr. in great pain in his Arm wth. Kellers horse Smoaker run of with him going home stopd him wth. Difficulty, dined all at Mr. Drummonds. Miss gave a tune on the harpiscord. After wch. all hands wents to Mr. Hays Country Seat of a very elegant Taste the Band being there playing before Supper and it being served up out of doors being a very calm Moonlight Night it made a fine show for Canada. Colo. Prescot very entertaing. in Singg. &ca. went home wth. Mr. Drumd. abt. one pm. Govr. Tryon in very great pain. —

1st. Augt. His Arm much inflamed confined to his Room showed me his Arm. —

2d. Augt. The Caghnawy. & wife that lost their Canoe plagued me gave him something for their Loss. dined with Capt. Godwin

3d. Introduced to the Gentlemn. of [ ] or Royl. Engsh. Fusiliers Mr. Leard plays Violollo. well, had a touch at his Lodging & mine

4th. 5th. Prepared to set off. dined at Govr. Cramahes, had the promise of some Ronunculers from the Jesuits. —

6. After breakfast at the Chateau & all the great folks being assembled, Govr. Tryon sat off after 9 am. in a Calesh of Mr. Cram s. & I accompd. him his right Arm being still painfull he sat on my left; got to St. Anns

7th. To Rivr. [ ] house Govr. bought a horse — stung by Bugs fleas &ca.

8th. Arrivd. at M[ ] abt. 7 Collo. [ ]

9th. Went to my Quarters to get ready to set off to Morrow.

10. Calld the Caghnawageys[8] & Aughquisasnes[9] who waited for me abt. what I gave the Priest in french Writing. I told them they must either send the Priest abt. his Buss. or allow Him to

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[7] At this point is inserted the following: "NB. The Hurons pd. a Visit to Govr. Tryon who recd. them kindly & gave them something for a Treat."

[8] Canadian Indians near Montreal.

[9] St. Regis Indians.

manage their Village wth. regard to private party disputes among themselves as well as their spiritual Matters as both were in a manner so connected that the one could not prosper without the other being conformable to it. Then delivered them the Belt the Mohawks spoke to S^{r}. W^{m}. ab^{t}. touching their hunting Grounds being encroached upon by the Canada Ind^{ns}, since the Conquest & that they desire them most earnestly to desist for y^{e}. future.

Aquirandonquas then replied that the Belt was of too much Import to give an Answer upon wth. out the concurrence of the whole Confederacy w^{ch}. by the first Opport^{y}. they would assemble & consider upon. In the mean time they must entreat the Mohawks to leave off selling any more of their hunting Grounds or at least acquaint them how far they had sold that [they] might know their Bounds. As they believed the real Reason of the Scarcity of Game proceeded from that illegal practice of theirs & that perhaps they might soon sell their planting Grounds & Village, meaning the Canada Ind^{ns}.

They observed among one another that they believed the Mohawks wanted to pick a Quarrel by their Belt

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GILBERT TICE ACCOUNT BOOK

D.[1]

[Jan. 1772 – Feb. 3, 1774]

Sir. william Johnson	D^{r}. —
to Clob[2]	£ 0..10.. 0
to hors hay & Grain	0.. 3.. 6
th^{e} 1 J^{n}. 1772 to Clob	0..15.. 6
to hors hay & Grain	0.. 3.. 6
th^{e}. 20 to Clob	1..16.. 0

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[1] In Johnson Hall, property of the Johnstown Historical Society. Gilbert Tice's tavern account book has separate pages devoted to Sir William and Guy Johnson. *Cf.* Earlier account of Tice in *Johnson Papers*, 7:699-701.

[2] "Club" and "Lodge" refer to St. Patrick's Lodge, F. & A.M., organized in 1766.

INDORSED:

[ ]
Penn Esq^{r}.
[Propriet]ary & Gov^{r}. of Pensilvania
ab^{t}. run^{g} Ind^{n} bound^{y} Line
with a Sketch—

JOHN PENN'S ANSWER TO THE CAYUGA CHIEFS

Contemporary Copy

Philadelphia, September 8th. 1773.—

Brothers,

You say that several of the [ ] are very desirous to meet me at Shamokin [ ] about running the Lines between me and [ ] Indians.—Brothers, I am just now [ ] the great Water, where our great King lives [ ] Business to do, which will make it absolutely [ ] for me to stay in this City. I must meet [ ] Men here this Moon and the next, in Council, [ ] many public Matters of great Importance; [ ] cannot comply with the Request of your chiefs [ ] going to meet them at Shamokin; and I am very [ ] for it. But I have written to Sir William Johnson [ ] send some of your wise Men to go along with my [ ] to see the Boundary Lines run between my Brothers the Indians and me, as they were settled at the great Treaty at Fort Stanwix. I expect this will be d[one] before the Snow covers the Ground; and then I hope none [of] my People will ever trouble my Brothers the Indians hunting upon their Lands.—

A String of Wampum

Brothers,

[ ] acquaint You, and I desire you will [ ]

[ ] now that, whenever they have any B[usiness] [ ] will be proper for them to go to Sir William [Johnson (who is] appointed by our great King to do Business [ ] Indians,) and inform him what it is, and get him [to write] me about it. When my Brothers the Indians [ ] here about Business, it is very difficult to get [Inter]preters to explain what they say; and I am often at a [ ] Loss to understand them. But Sir William understands [ ] Languages, and can always make me sensible of what you want. And therefore it will always be best to go [to] him first, and get him to write to me.—

Brothers,

I have now nothing further to say, but to wish you a good Journey home, and to desire you will tell your Chief Men the Reason I cannot meet them at Shamokin; and that I will order all my People to be kind to the Indians, and not hunt upon their Lands, but live in Peace and Quietness with them, like Brothers.— A Belt of Wampum

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FROM WILLIAM McADAM

A. L. S.

N York Sept^{r}. 15th. 1773

SIR

I Hope this will meet you perfectly Recovered from your Indisposition. Col. Gorham desires me to Acquaint you that he is very Sensible of your friendly offices to him, which he will Acknowlege by letter the first Oppertunity — I have a Cask of Jamaica Spirits laying in my Store Directed for you, which came in a vessell last Aprill. It seems to Contain about 40 Gall^{s}. It is not in my way but I Suppose you may have overlook't the letter which came with it. If you want it sent up the Country It shall be deliverd to your orders. This I mean Shall be Deliverd to you by Captain McGillivray who with his Two

INDORSED:[2]

Dublin 5th. 8br. 1773 —

Letter from my Br. Warren

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[2] In Sir William's hand.

JOURNAL OF ALEXANDER McKEE

Contemporary Copy[1]

Pittsburg the Day of October 7th. 1773

Extract taken from my Journal[2]

Received the following Speech in Writing by the Hands of One Butler[3] a Trader. —

Copy —

A Speech of the Shawanese 25th. Septr. 1773. Delivered by the Cornstalk in Presence of sundry other of the headmen & some Traders; Desired to be given to Mr. Croghan.

Brothers The English

As by several of the Actions of the Mingoes that live near us, we see they are determined to do Michief to you, for which reason a few days agoe We desired some of you the Traders to go home, Not that we meant you any Offence by it, but for Fear of Damage being done to you in our Towns; And as wee ourselves have a fellow feeling of and Distress that might happen you, We gave you this by way of Advice and to convince your Friends & Relations of our good Intentions; We don't mean that you go off to stay away altogether; but as we are now going out a hunting, These Mingoes may in our Absence do what they please & we be blamed wrong; We have hearken'd and do steadily adhere to the Speeches that has given us by your Headmen & have advised these Mingoes to do the same, but they have stopp'd their Ears & will not hearken to us, so that we are tired talking to them to no purpose, Therefore as Keyashuta is a Friend of M^{r}. Croghan's & a Headman of these People the Mingoes, We desire That M^{r}. Croghan will disire him to lay this matter before the Heads of their Nation; and that some of them may come down and advise these people to desist from these Practices, as it is intirely out of our Power, and their Proceedings may be productive of Consequences that may involve both them & us in Broils both destructive of our Peace & a Friendship that We are fond to continue with the English: And as there was Speeches delivered by M^{r}. Croghan to the Father of these Shawanese on the River when the Traders was sent amongst us advising us to take Care of them & treat them in a friendly manner which We think they will say has been done hitherto, and although Our old Father is dead Yet wee the Children do still firmly adhere to his Advice — And as Things at present has a bad Appearance & We don't know who may be the Agressors or real Occasion of the Disturbance in Case it may be worse than yet appears, We to convince the English take this method to clear ourselves & instead of killing the Traders in their Houses do advise them to go home in Peace & remain there till things appear in a more peaceable manner & then we hope our Old Friends will come back without Fear being thus convinc'd of our Regard for them. This is all We shall now say, as there will be the Hardman, the White Fish & some others there in a short time who will have more to say and will confirm this to be our real Meaning.

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Indian Records, Vol. 16.

[2] Inclosed in McKee to Johnson, Oct. 16, 1773, *post* pp. 1038-39.

[3] Richard Butler.

To George Croghan
Who will communicate it to
Our Brothers the English.

You told us this Summer not to hearken to the Traders or give them any Speeches, As what they wou'd say was of no acco^{tt}. but we are now obliged to apply to them to convey our Sentiments to you & our Friends the English; Therefore We desire you will not think this to be their Advice, it is really ours and wee desire you to hearken to it as such & in Testimony send you these Strings.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

Contemporary Copy[1]

Pittsburg October 9th. 1773 —

At a Meeting held with a Number of Chiefs, Six Nations, Hurons, Ottawas and Delawares —

Present

A Number of the principal Inhabitants of Pittsburg and Traders —

Keyashuta after presenting a Speech sent here by the Chiefs of the Shawanese spoke as follows. —

Brethren

You have now heard this Speech wch. the Chiefs of the Shawanese have sent by your Traders to be delivered to me, and I have considered it, and assure you that it has given both me and the several Chiefs present some Concern, and with Respect to the Troubles it intimates so near at hand, We know nothing of them, although the Chiefs of the Hurons who are present are but lately returned from the Wabash where they have been negotiating some good Speeches sent by Sir William Johnson, and they have the Satisfaction to say their Belts were well received by all the Western Indians as far as the Ilinois, upon that head, Who have all faithfully promised to them to hold fast by the Chain of Friendship; So That this Mischief talk'd of by the Shawanese must be hatched amongst themselves at Scioto. —

Brethren

You may remember that Two Years agoe when I accompanied the Six Nation Deputies to Scioto, We did every thing in our Powers at that time to remove the scattering Mingoes from the Two Creeks and to settle them nearer home (That is the Six Nation Country) where they might be more contiguous to be advised and taken Care of by The Six Nation Chiefs; But our Brethren the Shawanese interfered and carried them from us to Scioto with promising at the same time to take Care of them and keep them out of Mischief, which they said their Scituation at the Two Creeks made them always liable to be involv'd in; From these Cercumstances The Speech of the Shawanese Chiefs appears to us the more extraordinary; However We shall speak to them as soon as their Chiefs arrive here fully upon this matter before you. —

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Indian Records, Vol. 16; inclosed in Alexander McKee to Johnson, Oct. 16, (1773); included in McKee's Journal.

A Huron Chief then spoke

Brethren
We must also tell you That the Indians will not be altogether to blame for the Troubles shou'd any unfortunatly happen; You have likewise foolish People among you as well as us, who pay [no] Regard to the advice and Directions of their wise People. —

Brethren
You are all sensible that the Complaints of all Nations this way have been frequent against Spirituous Liquors being carried amongst them; This, Brethren, is the Scource of many Evils, and Cause of a great deal of our Unhappyness, by it our Young Men not only reduced to the Necessity of stealing to recover what they loose by Drunkeness, but deprived of their Reason and render'd incapable of listening to or taking the Advice of their Wise People. —

Brethren
If You who are Traders had conformed to orders by continuing to deal at the several posts which were fixed upon for this Purpose at the End of the last unhappy Disturbance it wou'd have prevented a great deal of Trouble to us both. We therefore now request you to take it into serious Consideration & do it, as it will be undoubtedly for both our Advantage; When any Indian Nations have Peltries to trade with there are none who want Horses to carry them to Market. —

Brethren
Another Thing which adds to the present Discontent and Confusion is the Number of White People who are scattered

down the River, building Houses and marking the Country wherever they go, far beyond the Limits (Sir William Johnson told us last Fall) were ordered to be settled by order of our Father The King of Great Britain. We have told you now the Cause of the imprudent Behaviour of our foolish Young Men and we desire you to be strong who is appointed to take Care of the Indians in removing every Obstacle that stands in the way of our future Peace and Tranquility. And We hope Our Brethren the Traders will also use their utmost Endeavours to assist you in this good Work which so much tends to the Wellfare of us both. This Brethren is all We have to say to you. —

A String. —

FROM HECTOR THEOs. CRAMAHÉ

A.L.S.[1]

Quebec 13th. October 1773 —

SIR

The Chevalier Lorimier, owner of thirty Packs of Pelleteries, lately plundered in Lake Ontario by some of the Seneca Nation, waits on You with this, in the Hopes that You will procure him a Restitution of his Furs, which otherwise will prove a heavy Loss to him, and obtain for the poor Widows and Children of the four unfortunate Canadians, the same Savages murthered, the best Redress and Compensation in your Power —

It is needless for me, Sir, to urge the Necessity of insisting upon ample Satisfaction for so flagrant an Injury, It is a Matter of great Importance to The Kings Service in this Province, to convince our Fellow Subjects of the Attention we pay to their Interests, and that their Lives and Fortunes are as dear to Us as our own; the bad Consequences that would attend the Trade of this Province, and in Effect the trade of Great Britain, was this inhuman Act passed over unnoticed, are too self evident to require being dwelt upon —

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[1] In Harvard University Library, Sparks Collection.

I am assured You will do in this disagreable Business all that the unhappy Sufferers can expect or desire, and in that full Persuasion remain with Great Esteem and Regard

Sir

Your most Obedient and
most Humble Servant

Honorable SIR WM. JOHNSON Bart.
Superintendant of Indian Affairs
in the N. District of N. America—

H. T. CRAMAHÉ

EXTRACT FROM INDIAN RECORDS

Copy[1]

1773 — October 15the —

Five Oneidas arrived at Johnson Hall with an answer to Sir William Johnson's Message sent to them by Saghaugarat one of their Chiefs about ten days ago, concerning the New England Indian's Intentions of removing to this part of the Country provoided the Six Nations would give them a Tract of Land to live on, of about ten Miles Square. To which they Answered that at a full Council of all their People and Warriors &c: they agreed to what Sir William had proposed, and begged that he would tell such of the New England Indians as were expected soon here, that as their Young men were now going on the *Hunt*, and would not return 'till after the New Year, they should return from hence, and acquaint their People that the Onoidas were ready to comply with their Request, and would be glad to see them in their Nation on their Return from Hunting, when they would shew them a Place to settle on, which if they did not like, they would give them liberty to chuse a Place that might be more agreeable. They then concluded telling Sir William that the Chiefs, and Warriors

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[1] Printed in *The Letters of Eleazar Wheelock's Indians*, edited by James Dow McCallum, pp. 157-58.

Extract [illegible] Pittsburg the Day

[illegible] following Speech in Writing by the
[illegible] Trader.

Copy —

"[illegible] Speech [illegible] 25th Sept 1771 Delivered
"[illegible] the Headmen &
[illegible] to Mr. [illegible]

Brothers [illegible]

"[illegible] Mingoes that live
"near us [illegible] you, for which
"[illegible] the Traders to go
"[illegible] but for Fear of
"Damage being done to you in our Towns; And as we ourselves have
"[illegible] happen you. We
"gave you this [illegible] Friends &
"Brothers [illegible] that you go off to
"stay away [illegible] going out a hunting. These
"Mingoes may [illegible] we be blamed
"wrong; We are [illegible] adhere to the Speeches
"that has been given us by your Headmen & [illegible] advised these
"Mingoes to do the same but they [illegible] stopped their ears & will not
"[illegible] bring to them to no purpose,
"therefore [illegible] Mr. Croghan & a Headman
"[illegible] that Mr. Croghan will desire
"him to lay [illegible] and that some
"[illegible] may come [illegible] people to desist from these
"Practices [illegible] ever; and their Proceedings
"may be productive of Consequences that may involve both them &
"us in [illegible] destruction of our Peace & a Friendship that We
"are fond to continue with the English: And as there was Speeches
delivered

"delivered by Mr. Croghan to the [illegible] of the Shawanese [illegible]

16 "when the Traders [illegible] advising us to take Care of
"them & treat them in a friendly manner as [illegible] this [illegible] will
"[illegible] has been done hitherto, and although our old Father is dead
"Yet we the Children do still firmly adhere to his Advice — And as
"Things at present have a bad Appearance & We don't know who
"may be the Aggressors or real Occasion of the Disturbance in
"Case it may be worse than yet appears We to convince the English
"take this method to clear ourselves & instead of killing the
"Traders in their Houses do advise them to go home in Peace
"& remain there till things appear in a more peaceable man-
"ner & then we hope our Old Friends will come back without
"Fear being thus convinced of our Regard for them: This is all We
"shall now say, as there will be the Handman, the White Fish
"& some others there in a short time who will have more to say
"and will confirm this to be our real Meaning" —

"To George Croghan
"Who will communicate it to
"our Brothers the English." —

"You told us this Summer not to hearken
"to the Traders or give them any Speeches, as
"what they would say was of no use" but
"we are now obliged to apply to them to con-
"-vey our Sentiments to you & our Friends
will not think this to be their Advice it is really ours, and we desire you
"the English; Therefore We desire you to hear-
"-ken to it as such & in Testimony send
"you these Strings." —

Pittsburg October 9th 1773

At a Meeting held with a Number of Chiefs, Six Nations
Hurons, Ottawas and Delawares —

Present

A Number of the principal Inhabitants of Pittsburg
and Traders —

They said

Geyasuta after presenting a Speech sent here by the Chiefs of the Shawanese spoke as follows —

Brethren

— You have seen and heard this Speech wch the Chiefs of the Shawanese have sent by your Traders to be delivered to me, and I have considered it, and assure you that it has given both me and the several Chiefs present some Concern, and with Respect to ~~the~~ troubles it intimates so near at hand; We know nothing of them, although the Chiefs of the Hurons who are present here but lately returned from the Wabash where they have been negotiating some good Speeches sent by Sir William Johnson, and they have the Satisfaction to say their Belts were well received by all the Western Indians as far as the Ilinois, upon that head, Who have all faithfully promised to them to hold fast by the Chain of Friendship; So that this Mischief talked of by the Shawanese must be hatched amongst themselves at Sioto. —

Brethren

— You may remember that two Years ago when I accompanied the Six Nation Deputies to Sioto, We did every thing in our Power at that time to remove the scattering Mingoes from the Two Creeks and to settle them nearer home (That is the Six Nation Country) where they might be more contiguous to be advised and taken Care of by the Six Nation Chiefs; But our Brethren the Shawanese interfered and carried them from us to Sioto with promising at the same time to take Care of them and keep them out of mischief, which they said their Situation at the Two Creeks made them always liable to be involved in; From these Circumstances the Speech of the Shawanese Chiefs appears to us the more extraordinary; However We shall speak to them as soon as their Chiefs arrive here fully upon this matter before you. —

A Huron Chief then spoke

Brethren

We must also tell you that the Indians will not be altog ther to blame for the troubles that have so unfortunately happen; Yo have likewise foolish People among you as well as us, who pay litt Regard to the Advice and Directions of their wise People. —

Brethren

You are all sensible that the Complaints of all Nations this way have been frequent against Spirituous Liquors being carried amongst them; this, Brethren, is the Source of many Evils, and Cause of a great deal of our Unhappyness; by it our Young Men not only reduced to the Necessity of stealing to recover what they lose by Drunkenness, but deprived of their Reason and rendered incapab of listening to or taking the Advice of their Wise People. —

Brethren

If You who are Traders had conformed to Orders by continuing to deal at the several Posts which were fixed upon for th Purpose at the End of the last unhappy Disturbances, it would ha prevented a great deal of Trouble to us both. We therefore now reque you to take it into serious Consideration & do it, as it will be undou edly for both our Advantage; When any Indian Nations have Peltries to trade with there are none who want Horses to carry th to Market. —

Brethren

Another Thing which adds to the present Discontent an Confusion is the Number of White People who are scattered down th River, building Houses and marking the Country wherever they go far beyond the Limits (Sir William Johnson told us last Fall) were ordered to be settled by order of our Father the King of Great Britain We have told you now the Cause of the imprudent Behaviour of ou foolish Young Men and we desire you to be strong who is appoi to take Care of the Indians in removing every Obstacle that th in the way of our future Peace and Tranquility. And We hope Our Brethren the Traders will also use their utmost Endeavours to assist you in this good Work which so much tends to the Wellfare of us both. This Brethren is all We have to say to you. —

S. Strong. —

Copy

Honord Sir

Pittsburg October the 16th 1774.

The inclosed extraordinary Message from the Shawanese was deliverd in Writing a few Days ago by one Butler a Trader from the Scioto, by which their Chiefs were apprehensive of some Mischief being done by the Six Nation Indians settled amongst them to the Traders; They would also seem desirous of excusing themselves from any Blame. I talked to the [illegible] Keyasheta upon this matter who is highly displeased at the Conduct of the Shawanese, as he says it is their Business to keep such of his People who are settled amongst them from doing Evil, It was owing to their bad Advice that those six Nation Indians did not listen to him and the Six Nation Chiefs when they came to remove them hence towards the Six Nation Country; that from their Behaviour now he sees the Shawanese want to act a double part, and is convinced of their Designing persuading the Mingoes to settle at Scioto; He then desired to have a Meeting with the Traders before some of the principal Inhabitants of this Place. —

I herewith inclose a Copy of what passd at this Meeting for your Honor's perusal. — With Respect to the Traders, this Complaint of Rum has frequently been made but to little purpose, for nothing but their private Interest actuates their Proceedings, when that is out of the Question it is difficult to bring them into any measure for the public Utility unless by compulsion; and when the Law does not support this Method a

prosecuti

a Prosecution is the Consequence - I find that none of the Indians, tho' ever so well disposed to the English can relish the Settlements making down the Ohio and the most reasonable that I have mett with amongst them are extreamly irritated at the Number of White People passing down the River almost every day; The Estimation of the Country there is so very great with all Ranks of People this way that it will be found a difficult matter now to restrain the Settlement thereof, and the grants from Virginia will greatly expedite this matter. -

There is at present a great Number of Indians here and more expected, I shall not fail of transmitting to your Honor anything that may occur during their Stay here worth your Notice, and have the Honor to be with great Respect

Your Honors most
Obedt. Humble Servt.
A McKee

Honble. Sir William Johnson Baronet

Extract Continued

February 26th. 1774. -

A Small Party of Twightwees came to this place, having been at War against the Cherokees were defeated by them and several of their Party killed. -

A Chief of the Shawanese address'd the Twightwees with the following Speech. -

to be left out

Younger Brethren

We condole with you for the Loss you have sustain'd at War; particularly as you say some of your Chiefs are amongst the Slain; Tho' at the same time, we cannot help observing to you, That we are surprized to hear, That they who were Chiefs should go upon such Business - When we consider that Peace is recommended from all sides, it appears that this late Misfortune has been brought upon you by not listning to the wise Advice which has been given to all before. — We desire you to communicate this as our Sentiments when you return home, and that we hope your misled People will for the Future pay more Regard to the good Councils they hear. —

A String

February the 27th 1774 —

An Account was brought by some Traders that a Party of Shawanese had return'd home, from the Frontiers of Virginia and brought in a Number of Horses; and that it was reported they had killed Six White Men & two Negroes. —

March the 1st 1774

To the Chiefs of the Shawanese —

Brethren

to be Left out

[illegible] heard the bad News brought here from your Towns, of several White People's being kill'd, with a Number of Horses taken by your foolish Young Men, and that other Parties of them were going out upon the same errand, by this Behaviour it either appears that they pay no regard to the Advice you give them, or that those Chiefs you left at home do not take that Care incumbent upon them to preserve Peace. —

Brethren I have now to recommend to you in the most earnest manner your Speedy Return home in order to use your utmost Strength and Influence to put a Stop to such flagrant Outrages, which otherwise will most assuredly draw upon you the Resentment of the numerous White People settled now upon this River whom you have seen passing during your Stay this winter and Spring, and who once prejudiced against you will not be easily restrained from taking ample Revenge; So that you see it is not only your own Interest to govern your rash Young Men better, but your Duty from the Professions of Friendship you have made since you came to this place. —

A String —

Copy. 22

Pittsburg the 3d March 1774.

Sir

Since the Meeting held with the Indians here last Fall, most of the Chiefs and principal Warriors of the several Tribes have continued about this place and in February a Deputation of the Six Nations called them to a Meeting, when they delivered some Messages, and demanded the Hatchet Belt from the Chiefs of the Shawanese, which is said to be amongst them; they strongly deny knowing anything of it and delivered for answer That as soon as a large Congress was finish'd this Spring, which is to be held at Sciota between the Southern & Western Indians; That they would then accompany the Chiefs from all the Nations who are to assemble there to the Six Nation Country when they would speak to the Six Nation Council fully upon this Head, as well as upon everything they had heard from them these several Years past. — In a Conversation with the Shawanese Chiefs in whose Possession the above Belt is supposed to be, He acknowledged to have received a War Belt, which originally (he says) came from the [illegible] delivered [illegible] Nation to him; But that the Purport of it was no more than [illegible] a single Party to War against any Nation they might be at Enmity with; and that this Belt he had given into the Hands of a Principal Warrior of his Tribe, who had informed an Onondaga Chief upon his Return from the Congress at Sciota, that he had such a Belt and refused to deliver it to him when required — This Chief further informed me That he knows of a large Belt being keeped very secretly amongst the Six Nations for many Years past, The Signification of which is to call upon all the Indian Nations who are in Friendship with them, when occasion shall require their uniting strongly together to prevent the English from encroaching too far upon them or usurping their Country; but he says this Belt has not as yet reach'd their Nation, as it is preserved by the Six Nations as the last Resource against the English — I understand that a large Body of Cherokees are expected early this Spring to Muskingum upon an Invitation from the Delawares, who have also sent for the Lake Indians to meet them there — The Chiefs here are about preparing to go home in order to attend those Meetings they expect.

Some Traders who are returned from the Indian Country have brought an acct. of several Families being cut off this Winter by Parties of the Shawanese near the Big Kanhaway and further down the Ohio, with some Negroes and a Number of Horses taken & brought into their Towns – I have spoke to the Chiefs here upon it and advised their speedy return home in order to put a Stop to such Outrages, & to use their utmost Strength and Influence to govern their rash Young People; That as the Settlements in this Country were now become formidable they must not expect that the White People would long let their Conduct in this manner pass with Impunity which probably would draw upon them utter Destruction and embroil many innocent People –

The Expeditious Settlement of this Country gives all the Indian Nations this way Uneasiness and is the Subject of their constant Complaints, as well as the real Cause of their disturbing [illegible] with Families on the River, which Practice has a very dangerous Tendency & may in the End draw on a Quarrell –

An Appointment this Winter here of a Militia Officer by Lord Dunmore the Governor of Virginia and the assembling of a Militia has occasion'd great Noise, as the civil Authority extended here by Pennsylvania have interfered, arrested the Officer, and endeavour'd to disperse the People; This Step affords us the greatest Reason to believe The Colony of Virginia are about to contend with Pennsylvania for the Jurisdiction of this part of the Country; The Protection of the former appears to be most wish'd for by the Inhabitants, who at present lament their uncertain Situation –

I have the Honor to be with greatest Respect

Your Honor's most

Obedient humble servant

The Honble. Sir William Johnson Baronet – A McKee

March 8th 1774 —

At a Meeting with several Six Nations, Shawanese and Delaware Chiefs and a Number of the Inhabitants of Pittsburg — Shawanese spoke as follows —

Brethren —

Out

We have considered what you said to us a few Days agoe, and are sorry to hear such bad News from our Towns, tho We hope most of it may not be true; We desire you not to listen too attentivly to it untill we inquire further, and we shall not fail to communicate to you the truth of whatever comes to our Knowlege. In the mean time We cover over by this String of Wampum the Breach of Friendship that has been commited by our foolish young Men; We also wipe the Tears from your Eyes and remove any evil Impression from your Hearts it may have occasioned, That you may See and hear us with Pleasure —

A String

Brethren

By this Belt of Wampum we brighten that ancient Friendship which subsisted between our Fore-Fathers and we sweep the Council House that it may appear white & unspotted, that the Sky may appear clear, and the Sun go down in Peace. — We likewise clear the Path to this Council House, and remove every Obstacle out of it that may hinder us from travelling it with Satisfaction; and that when we meet, We may look upon one another with the same Friendship that our old Wise People did. —

A Belt.

Brethren

In

We came here last Fall upon a Friendly Visit to you, and as we are now about returning home, We request you may inform Sir William Johnson with what we have said, and that we shall do every thing in our Power to preserve the Peace and Tranquility of this Country — Brethren, We must also observe to you

The

March 13th 1774 — Part of the Shawanese Chiefs sett off by Water to return home —

April 11th — Private Intelligence received from a Shawanese Indian by Mr McKee, ~~Resident~~ Sir Wm Johnsons Resid.t on Ohio —

Brother —

Although you have frequent Meetings with our great Men in which they pretend a friendship for you and that they would not keep anything a Secret from you, I have reason to believe that they do not divulge all they know to you, therefore I am come to inform you of what I have heard; I have not lived long amongst them altho' I am a Shawanese, but am only upon a Visit from the Creek Country which is my home, and to which I intend to return in a short time; Brother, You have heard that a great Meeting has been some Years past, and is now expected to take place at Scioto, Indians from Nations westward ~~and Southward are expected to it, The meeting whenever~~ it happens is the fixed time of striking the English, for when the Chiefs are once assembled, The Warriors can readily bring all Nations into the measure, and although the Chiefs of some Nations have been busied in conducting good Speeches about, ~~[illegible]~~ the Warriors are of diff. Sentiments in genl. & used as a Covering to this general Design and the Hopes depending upon it have prevented many Broils with the White People. Tho' now Mischief seems almost unavoidable from the Disposition of our People in General, owing to the ~~Settlements [illegible] upon the Ohio~~ Encroachments upon our Lands, the ill treatment rec.d from the frontier people, and the Interruption the Indians met with in their Hunting. — The ~~Six Nations~~ Senecas, tho' they may deny it, have their Share in this Plan, for it is no new one, but has been upon foot many Years, and indeed I may say such a one has been in Being ever since our first Acquaintance almost with the English, (particularly since the French left their Posts to the Northward) for We discovered an early Design in them of taking away our Country and it will be a difficult Task to collect all the bad Belts that have been handed from the ~~Six Nations~~ Canada & Chenussio to us upon this Subject. — At present almost all Indians this way wish to strike those People gone down the River, and we are only waiting to hear again

Northwd. the Senecas being dissatisfied with
again from the ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~several Messages we received~~ ~~from them & the Uneasiness of the Western~~; ~~they~~ we were ~~uneasy~~ ~~[illegible] Readyness~~ for that the rest ~~they~~ ~~we~~ might ~~expect from them~~ ~~would be, that they had struck the English, the reason they gave~~ ~~us for being so precipitate was that~~ the Terms offered them by the ~~White People~~ english on acct. of a Breach of Friendship ~~their~~ by their Young Men have been guilty ~~of were~~ & which Terms were so hard, ~~and~~ that they could not comply with, therefore that they would make War first as this would certainly be the Consequence of their Refusal to the White English Demands; That in the mean time they were amusing them with Speeches from their Lips only untill the Spring approached: This has induced some of our Chiefs to stay behind the rest to collect all the Six Nation Indians, Munsies and others settled hereabouts together, in order to carry them off, and settle them at our Towns amongst us; and they have already agreed to go with us, and pay no Regard to any Messages that may come to remove them towards the Six Nation Country; You will be convinced in a short time, that what I tell you is Truth, and I do not tell it to you thro' any View of Interest, but that you may know what is to happen; Perhaps I ~~may~~ never see you again, if I should return to my own Country as I intend; but should I be detained here longer than I propose; I will make it my Business to come again and inform you with what I can hear, tho' at the same time I am convinced that if it should come to the Knowledge of my People, that I gave you this Information, it would endanger my Life. — I must likewise inform you that I am well acquainted with the Policy of all the Southern Indians and I can assure you that their Designs are exactly the same against the English, & that whenever they come to a Meeting in this Country, so soon as their own Differences are made up, that they will not hesitate to strike the English, for they make nearly the same Complaint against them, that is usurping their Country and driving them from their old Hunting Grounds has exposed many of their People to loose their Lives by their Enemy Indians.

Brother

That to facilitate this good Work the principal Men should be acquainted with the very great Numbers of your People going down this River beyond the Bounds fixed for them and overspreading the Hunting Country of our Young Men, No doubt but it is in the Power of the great Men to stop it, This is the only direct means of bringing about good order on your Side as well as ours, for from this Cause proceeds at present all our Disturbances; And altho' it is highly contrary to our Inclinations and Intentions as Chiefs that our Young Men should be concern'd in any Mischief, Yet it is likewise out of our Power to prevent those evil Resolutions they form when absent from us, for when they are disappointed in their hunting and find the Woods covered with white People & their Horses where they used to find their Game, they are foolish enough to make Reprisals without waiting to apply to the Great Men that should redress their Complaints and regulate the Conduct of their white Brethren towards them. —

Brethren. —

We have had many disagreeable Dreams this winter about this matter and what we have seen and been Witness to since we came here serves also to confirm our Fears, as well as the constant assembling of our Brethren with Red Flaggs convinces us that War is still uppermost in their minds, otherwise such Preparations would be laid aside. — We are likewise informed that the White People propose building a large Fort low down the River this Summer. — Let our Wise Men be strong, it is still in their Power to govern headstrong and foolish People and restore that regular Friendship that ought to subsist between us. —

In

I Returned them the following Answer

Brethren. —

We thank you for the deep Concern you have express'd of the rash Proceedings of your foolish Young Men, as well as for the Trouble you have taken in sweeping the Council House, and opening the Path to it; This was done upon our Parts last Fall at the Meeting

out

hel

held with the Senecas [illegible] at that time and I have now again to put you in mind of it, as well as what likewise passed, that you may communicate the same to all your People upon your Return home and I have no doubt but you will also use your utmost Abilities in restraining evil disposed People & promoting everything good, for you certainly judge right when you submit those things which disturb you to the Superint.t & the Wisdom of our Great-men whom I make no doubt you will find always ready to redress your Complaints with the utmost Candour as well as to keep a watchfull Eye to afford you every Justice you expect; In the mean time I shall send Sir William Johnson a Copy of what you have said, and as soon as I am favour'd with his Answer will not fail to communicate it to you. —

Brethren. —

I would recommend to you not to listen to idle Stories, or be too apt to believe in every Chimera that presents itself to you, [illegible] in the End to be no more than so many evil Spirits endeavouring to delude you, But the most substantial way to your Happyness is to only observe those good Speeches you rec.d from our Wise men, and to preserve a fast hold of that Chain of Friendship which subsists between you. —

Brethren. —

With respect to the White People here who have appear'd to you to be in some Agitation this Winter, I have before, and can now assure you, That the Cause of their uniting does not in the least concern you, But Business intirely Relative to themselves — and as to building a Fort down this River, I have received no Intimation thereof; However it hardly seems probable That your Father the King of Great Britain after destroying the Forts throughout this Country at a considerable Expence to convince you of his kind Intentions towards you, should order new ones to be built untill there appears an absolute Necessity therefor to curb rash and foolish People who may attempt to disturb our Peace and Tranquility. —

a Belt

Brethren :

Let the Chiefs of all Nations make whatever Professions of Friendship they will to the English, it is from their Lips only and not from their Hearts, for they do not mean to promote any other Interest than what I have now told you, For the Great God who made us all gave them this Country, so that it is natural for them to endeavour to take Care of it. — —

April 17th 1774. —

The Remainder of the Shawanese Chiefs left this to return home, The same day an acco.t was brought in, That a Traders Cannoe was fired upon the Day before near Little Beaver Creek about fourty miles from hence down the River on their way to Scioto, one of their Men killed and another wounded, who had made his Escape & brought in this Intelligence, with adding that he knew the Indians who had fired upon him to be three Cherokee men and a Woman whom he had seen before he left Pittsburg. — The same Evening a Party of Militia was dispatched after the murderers and Kayashuta being just returned from Sir William Johnson's sent a Message to a small Village of Six Nation Indians living below Logs Town to accompany the Militia in Pursuit of those Cherokees. —

April 21st. —

The Party of Militia return'd without Success having only found the Cannoe with some Liquors remaining in her below the Two Creeks. —

April 24th —

Was informed that the Six Nations living below Logs-Town had left their Village and accompanied the Chiefs of The Shawanese down to Muskingam. —

April 25th. — Delivered the following Speech directed to the Shawanese and Mingoes inhabiting Muskingam & Scioto —

Brethren

As there is the greatest reason to imagine that three Cherokee Men and a Woman who committed the late Murder and Robbery upon one of our Traders Cannoes, are gone towards your Town with the Plunder, and as we cannot suppose that you would be either privy to or countenance such a flagrant Breach of Friendship; We therefore desire you to be strong should they come to your Towns and send them back to be delivered up to Justice; This proof of your Sincerity is as little as we can expect from you; As those Cherokees came to see you, and it was by this means they came to this place; It behoves you in a most particular manner to have those Murderers taken; not only from your Promises of doing everything to preserve the Chain of Friendship and a Regard to Justice; But if you consider well, This outrage is committed against yourselves, for those Traders were going to your Towns to furnish you with [illegible]; Besides this You must be looked upon in some degree accountable for the Behaviour of those Cherokees, as it was you brought them this way, and they have resided some time amongst you, Therefore they ought to have been better advised; for some of your own People who were innocent might have suffered for this Crime; These, Brethren, are Arguments sufficient to induce you to think that it is your Duty to apprehend the Perpetrators thereof, Even if it had not been required of you. —

A large Bunch of white Wampum

In Keyashuta Arrived & repeated to me the Heads of several Speeches he was charged with from Sir William Johnson for returning good bro^s to the South &c Bring the refractory Tribes to reason ~~relative to~~ as follows. —

Brother Keyashuta

I Return you my Thanks for the Fidelity you have shewn in delivering the several Speeches you were charged with from the Ohio, as I find them exactly correspond with my

Letters by way of Detroit. — I now take you by the Hand and desire you to be strong in continuing to do so as you have done, as I shall now have more Speeches of Consequence to intrust you with. —

A Belt of Black Wampum —

Brethren the Hurons. —

As soon as your former Fathers the French were removed from Detroit There was a great Council Fire kindled at that place which was at that time put under your Care, But I am sorry to tell you, That I can observe at this Distance that you have almost left it extinguish, I therefore now desire you to be strong and renew it, and to be so industrious about it, That the Smoke of it may be seen by your Neighbouring Nations who should always come to it to brighten their Friendship, as this is the way to preserve it from decaying between all Nations. —

A Belt.

~~[illegible]~~

I now return you my thanks for the Care you have taken to deliver my Messages to the Wabash Confederacy last Year, as well as in forwarding their answer back, and I now take you by the Hand by this Belt of Wampum, and lead you to the Council Fire at my House, and I must desire you to bring the Twightwees Confederacy with you, That I may see them and speak with them myself, as I have things of great Consequence to say to you & them both, I will expect to see you here by the Time the Corn is between three & four feet high. — Be strong and expeditious in coming, and not think the time I have limited too short — Consider that it is our Wellfare We are going to talk about. —

A Belt.

Brethren the Hurons. —

With respect to the Person you want appointed to speak to you at Detroit, I have to inform you That there is one there already and I would desire you to be strong & listen to him, as well as to apply to him to transact any publick Business you have to do, and I have directed him to be attentive to what you say to him and constantly to send to me in Writing what you have to inform me, as this is a more expeditious way than sending Runners. —

A Belt —

Brethren the Hurons

I now tell you to be strong and speak to the Wabash Confederacy, give them your best Advice and let me hear always from you what they say. This is the right way to preserve peace and good Order. Brethren, I have been informed that some bad Birds whistle evil Things into one of your Ears, I now shut up that Ear next to those ill disposed Birds, That what they sing may have no more Effect upon you, and I open wide your other Ear that you may listen to me when I desire you to promote what is good between us and all the Western Nations in our Friendship. —

A Belt —

Ent

Brethren The Six Nations. —

You have been labouring for some years past to collect your scatter'd People upon the Ohio together, but to no purpose; I see the Cause why you have not succeeded, & you yourselves can not be ignorant of it. — It is owing to the bad advice of those people they are settled amongst, who it seems have keep'd them with no other View than to lay whatever Mischief happens upon them — The Shawanese Message is a sufficient Proof of the truth of this, who have complain'd against them and desired that they might be taken away, Notwithstanding it was them who took them from you; but the Design is plain; Therefore, Brethren, Be strong & bring them nearer to you. — I do not point out to you any particular place to settle them but I desire you to bring them away from those bad people they are now amongst, for Nothing but Broils & Disturbances will be the Consequence of their Residence there. —

A Belt —

Breth

Brethren the Six Nations

I Desire you to pay the greatest Attention to what I am now going to say to you, as I will now tell you a little of my mind, and in return, when you have considered well what I say to you, I shall expect your Sentiments freely and fully upon it.— Brethren, We have been speaking for many Years past to the Shawanese, and you see they take but little Notice, and shew no Inclination at all to do what is good. You have been yourselves frequently Witnesses of their extraordinary Behaviour when We have been endeavouring to promote the Peace and Tranquility of all Nations; Therefore consider what is to be done with them, and tell the Hurons, that I desire them also to think seriously of this matter, and that I expect that they will bring me the Opinion of the Wabash Confederacy upon it, as well as all other nations inhabiting the Lakes, and by the time that the Corn is in blossom; I will expect to see all those Nations at the Council Fire here and then have their full Determination with Respect to the Conduct of the Shawanese.

A Belt

April 25th: 1774

Keyashuta addressed Captain Connolly Commandant of the Militia at Pittsburg with the following Speech.—

Brother,

As I understand you have an Appointment to command in this Country, I therefore take this Opportunity of informing you that at this time it will be very detrimental to the Public Interest to suffer Spirituous Liquors to be sold or carried into the Indian Towns, for I am sorry to observe that there appears at present a great deal of Confusion and Discontent amongst many of the Indian Tribes, and the Addition of Rum will serve greatly to increase their disorderly Conduct.—

I spoke to the Traders last Fall upon this Subject and desired they would then desist for their own Sakes as well as ours from taking such Quantities of Rum with them a trading, but I received no

Answer from them, and it seems since they pay no Regard to what I recommend to them, but have continued this pernicious Practice. — This is the Reason I would therefore Request you to use your Influence in preventing them until things appear more settled. —

A String of Wampum —

April 26th 1774. —

Some Cayuga Families came here from Susquehannah to settle, and informed me they would plant this year at the Mouth of Big Beaver Creek, and requested a little Ammunition to hunt for their People. —

April 27th —

I received Information that eighteen [illegible] Six Nation Indians and others who lived near Logs Town and big Beaver Creek, had pass'd little Beaver Creek the 23d Inst on their way to Muskingam; —

May 1st The following Alarming Intelligence arriv'd at Fort Pitt

— One Stephens, who had proceeded in the Traders Cannoe who was attack'd the 16th by the Cherokees, in order to have carried her to the Scioto, return'd to this place with the following acco.t — That on the 26th Instant upon his way down the River, and near Whealing, He observed a Cannoe coming up the River, which suspecting to be Indians, made to the opposite Side to avoid them; but upon his Approach near the Shore was fired upon, and a Shawanese Indian in the Cannoe with him was killed; Upon a second Fire from the Shore a Delaware Indian who was also in the Cannoe was likewise killed. The said Stephens says further, that he could not perceive who it was fired upon him, as they lay concealed in the Weeds; and he having throwed himself into the River observed the Cannoe that was coming up to be white People; upon which he made towards them and found it to be one Michael Crissop with a Party of Men who denied knowing anything of what had happined to them; Although upon Circumstances &c the said Stephens is well Convinced that the above Murder was done by some of said Crissop's Associates. — Stephens likewise informed me that whilst he was in Company with said Crissop, He heard him make use of Threatening Language against the Indians, saying, That he wou'd put every Indian he mett with on the River to Death; and that if he could raise Men sufficient to cross the River, he would attack a small Village of Indians living on yellow Creek. ——

The same Evening one Major McDaniel of Virginia, who had been down the River as low as little Kannaway, returned to this Place with an Accot. That a Skirmish had happined between a Party of the Virginians and the Indians near the big Kannaway, That a Number was killed on both Sides which had occasiond the Surveyors and Land[illegible] to return. And that on his way hither the 27th Instant [illegible] at Michael Crissop's House at or near Wheeling, when an Accot. was brought to said Crissop by One McMahon; That five Indian Cannoes had stopp'd at his House, on their way down the River, containing fourteen Indians, who asked him the said McMahon for some Provissions which he refused to give them, and told them That two of their Brethren had been killed by the White People the Day before; The Indians reply'd, That if it was so They knew nothing of it, and then proceeded down the River. Upon this Information the sd. Crissop collected fifteen Men, pursued them, & overtook them near Grave Creek where they had stopped and drawn up their Cannoes in the Mouth of a Creek that was hardly perceivable on accot. of the Bushes (where they had prepared themselves to receive the white people; suspecting that they would be follow'd after what McMahon had told them, and that upon the said Crissop's observing the Indians, He fired upon them; upon which a Skirmish ensued between them But the Indians retired after loosing one Man; and —

One Man was killd also on the White people's side — Crissop and his Party found Sixteen Keggs of Rum, Two Saddles & some Bridles in the deserted Indian Cannoes. —

Upon receiving the above Intelligence I dispatched Messages to the Chiefs of the Indians who are nearest at hand, to attend here as soon as possible, and made application to the Officer Commanding the Militia to dispatch Expresses to the said Crissop; to know from what Provocation he acted towards the Indians in this manner, and to desist from any further Hostilities till matters could be inquired into — and settled if possible. —

May 2d 1774 —

Parties of Militia were employed in bringing in the Inhabitants to this place; in order to sett about fortifying, but instead of going upon this Service most of them fled ~~proceeded~~ down the Country to avoid the Service of the Fort? —

May 3d: —

Information received from Capt. Crawford and one Mr. Nevill from Verginia, That on their way to this place, they mett a Number of the Inhabitants settled below this moving Off, among whom was a Party who presented several Indian Scalps, and related their having taken them in the following manner — That a Number of Indians having incamped at the Mouth of Yellow Creek, They with one Grithouse secluded themselves at the House of One Baker opposite to the said Camp, and decoyed Two Indian Men and Two Women over to their side of the River to drink with them, who upon finding them intoxicated fell upon them and knock'd them in the Head & scalp'd them; That soon after Two other Indians came over to see what had detained their Friends, and were served in the same manner, after this The Indians appear'd uneasy and six of their Men were coming across the River to see after their people, who approaching near the

Shoar observed them the said White People where they were laying in ambush for them, and attempting to return to their Camp, were fired upon and two of them killed, who dropp'd into the River, and two others they observed fall dead into the Cannoe, and the Fifth, upon their Landing, they could discern to be very badly wounded, so that he could scarce get up the Bank — And that they heard the Women and Children at the Camp raise a very melancholy Cry. Amongst those who were killed was an Indian Woman the Wife of one of our Traders, who had a young Child upon her back, which she had bore to him, and after some Altercation between those Murderers whether they should put the Child to Death, They agreed to take along with them. — The said Mr. Neville asked the person (in whose Custody the Child was) if he was not near enough to have taken it's Mother Prisoner without putting her to Death in that inhuman manner? He answered, That he was about five feet Distance, and that he had just shott her in the Forehead, and cut the Strap by which the Child's Cradle hung at her back, and that he intended to have dash'd it's brains out, but that he [illegible] Remorse on seeing the Child fall with it's mother — [illegible] his Companions recommended their taking it along [illegible] That they might have an opportunity of sending it to it's Father to take care of. — And that after they had perpetrated this barbarous Murder, They made off with their Families — Also they further said, That by this time the whole Country was deserted, as Michael Cresap who committed the first Mischief was likewise then on his way to Redstone. —

Meeting with Keyashuta, the White Mingo, & some other Six Nation Chiefs at Col. Croghan's House, where was present the Commanding Officer of the Militia & several other Gentlemen When I informed them of the Melancholly Murders of their People beforementioned, which they had not before heard, and assured them at the same time of it's being done by a few rash inconsiderate White People and not by the Intention or Knowlege of any of our Wise Peo

People. That I made no Doubt but the Governor of Virginia when he was made acquainted with the unhappy Loss they had sustained by his People, Every measure would be fallen upon by him to make them ample Satisfaction as it was not done by the Intention of Government — That in the mean time I enjoyn'd them to afford all the Assistance in their Power in accomodating the unfortunate Breach of Friendship, that had happen'd between our People and them, as a General Difference would not be attended with anything but the utmost Distress on both sides. —

A Large String of Wampum.

They Returned for Answer

That they had considered what we had said to them, and as the Chiefs of the Delawares were expected in to night or Tomorrow, they would consult with them and know what Reply to make — That We might be assured, They would do everything in their power [illegible] [illegible] the General [illegible] town People [illegible] [illegible] in our power preventing our rash People from commencing any further Outrages against the Indians. —

May 4th 1774. —

Received the following Letter from Colo. Croghan.

Gentlemen May 4th 1774

Kayashuta stay'd with me an hour [illegible] Evening, and told me, that the Delaware [illegible] was to take no part with the Shawanese, and [illegible] Delawares were so likewise; That they would joyn in sending one Message to the Shawanese, that if they would not [illegible] to Reason they ought to be chastised. He says, for their part of the Delawares, they have been for sometime past determined never to quarrel with their Brethren the English, and that he is sure they will live & die with us — He thinks the Governor of Virginia

should

Virginia should build a Fort at the Mouth of the Kanhaway to keep them in Awe and prevent them making Inroads amongst the Inhabitants, And that the People should put in their Crops, and be guarded by some of the Militia till we see what part the Shawanese will act; He is sure no other Nations will joyn them, as he is certain all other Nations are displeased with the Shawanese Conduct these twelve Months past. He says likewise, That if the Shawanese come up this way to do any Mischief, That they and the Delawares, he is sure will resent it; This he desires may be made known to all his Brethren the English upon the River to Redstone & Every where, and desires that none of the people may fly or be afraid, as the Shawanese by themselves can't do much Mischief. I am Gentlemen

Your humble Servant

Geo: Croghan

To Capt. John Connolly &
Alexr. McKee Esqrs.

May 4th: [illegible]

This afternoon, Simon Girty who was sent for the Delawares Chiefs, returned with Capt. White Eyes, Capt. Pipe, John Compass & some others, who went up to Col. Croghan's where the Six Nation Chiefs had appointed to meet them. —

May 5th. —

This Day had a Meeting before a number of the principal Delawares, with several Chiefs of the Six Nations [illegible] ns, I condoled with them for the Losses they have [illegible]ed by the Barbarity of some rash People from Virginia, covering the Bones of the deceased Friends with some Goods suitable to the Occasion and agreeable to their Custom. —

I Delivered them some Messages also agreeable to the present Circumstances, to be conveyed to their People at their several Towns with the utmost Dispatch, Desiring some of them who had influence

to exert themselves upon this Business; as the present Emer=
=gencie required the Answer of those of their other Friends who had
likewise suffered by the late unhappy Outrages, I hope they would
not delay making us acquainted as soon as possible with their
Sentiments upon this unfortunate Affair; and in order to con=
=vince those People to whom they were to be delivered, of our Sin=
=cerity. And That We did not countenance these Misdemeanors,
Two of our People would accompany them in the Execution of this
good Service. —

[illegible]
1st Journal

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

Contemporary Copy[1]

Pittsburg October 9th. 1773 —

At a Meeting held with a Number of Chiefs, Six Nations, Hurons, Ottawas and Delawares —

Present

A Number of the principal Inhabitants of Pittsburg and Traders —

Keyashuta after presenting a Speech sent here by the Chiefs of the Shawanese spoke as follows. —

Brethren

You have now heard this Speech wch. the Chiefs of the Shawanese have sent by your Traders to be delivered to me, and I have considered it, and assure you that it has given both me and the several Chiefs present some Concern, and with Respect to the Troubles it intimates so near at hand, We know nothing of them, although the Chiefs of the Hurons who are present are but lately returned from the Wabash where they have been negotiating some good Speeches sent by Sir William Johnson, and they have the Satisfaction to say their Belts were well received by all the Western Indians as far as the Ilinois, upon that head, Who have all faithfully promised to them to hold fast by the Chain of Friendship; So That this Mischief talk'd of by the Shawanese must be hatched amongst themselves at Scioto. —

Brethren

You may remember that Two Years agoe when I accompanied the Six Nation Deputies to Scioto, We did every thing in our Powers at that time to remove the scattering Mingoes from the Two Creeks and to settle them nearer home (That is the Six Nation Country) where they might be more contiguous to be advised and taken Care of by The Six Nation Chiefs; But our Brethren the Shawanese interfered and carried them from us to Scioto with promising at the same time to take Care of them and keep them out of Mischief, which they said their Scituation at the Two Creeks made them always liable to be involv'd in; From these Cercumstances The Speech of the Shawanese Chiefs appears to us the more extraordinary; However We shall speak to them as soon as their Chiefs arrive here fully upon this matter before you. —

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Indian Records, Vol. 16; inclosed in Alexander McKee to Johnson, Oct. 16, (1773); included in McKee's Journal.

A Huron Chief then spoke

Brethren

We must also tell you That the Indians will not be altogether to blame for the Troubles shou'd any unfortunatly happen; You have likewise foolish People among you as well as us, who pay [no] Regard to the advice and Directions of their wise People. —

Brethren

You are all sensible that the Complaints of all Nations this way have been frequent against Spirituous Liquors being carried amongst them; This, Brethren, is the Scource of many Evils, and Cause of a great deal of our Unhappyness, by it our Young Men not only reduced to the Necessity of stealing to recover what they loose by Drunkeness, but deprived of their Reason and render'd incapable of listening to or taking the Advice of their Wise People. —

Brethren

If You who are Traders had conformed to orders by continuing to deal at the several posts which were fixed upon for this Purpose at the End of the last unhappy Disturbance it wou'd have prevented a great deal of Trouble to us both. We therefore now request you to take it into serious Consideration & do it, as it will be undoubtedly for both our Advantage; When any Indian Nations have Peltries to trade with there are none who want Horses to carry them to Market. —

Brethren

Another Thing which adds to the present Discontent and Confusion is the Number of White People who are scattered down the River, building Houses and marking the Country wherever they go, far beyond the Limits (Sir William Johnson told us last Fall) were ordered to be settled by order of our Father The King of Great Britain. We have told you now the Cause of the imprudent Behaviour of our foolish Young Men and we desire you to be strong who is appointed to take Care of the Indians in removing every Obstacle that stands in the way of our future Peace and Tranquility. And We hope Our Brethren the Traders will also use their utmost Endeavours to assist you in this good Work which so much tends to the Wellfare of us both. This Brethren is all We have to say to you. —

A String. —

FROM HECTOR THEOS. CRAMAHÉ

A.L.S.[1]

Quebec 13th. October 1773 —

SIR

The Chevalier Lorimier, owner of thirty Packs of Pelleteries, lately plundered in Lake Ontario by some of the Seneca Nation, waits on You with this, in the Hopes that You will procure him a Restitution of his Furs, which otherwise will prove a heavy Loss to him, and obtain for the poor Widows and Children of the four unfortunate Canadians, the same Savages murthered, the best Redress and Compensation in your Power —

It is needless for me, Sir, to urge the Necessity of insisting upon ample Satisfaction for so flagrant an Injury, It is a Matter of great Importance to The Kings Service in this Province, to convince our Fellow Subjects of the Attention we pay to their Interests, and that their Lives and Fortunes are as dear to Us as our own; the bad Consequences that would attend the Trade of this Province, and in Effect the trade of Great Britain, was this inhuman Act passed over unnoticed, are too self evident to require being dwelt upon —

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[1] In Harvard University Library, Sparks Collection.

I am assured You will do in this disagreable Business all that the unhappy Sufferers can expect or desire, and in that full Persuasion remain with Great Esteem and Regard

Sir
Your most Obedient and
most Humble Servant

H. T. CRAMAHÉ

Honorable SIR WM. JOHNSON Bart.
Superintendant of Indian Affairs
in the N. District of N. America—

EXTRACT FROM INDIAN RECORDS

Copy[1]

1773 — October 15the —

Five Oneidas arrived at Johnson Hall with an answer to Sir William Johnson's Message sent to them by Saghaugarat one of their Chiefs about ten days ago, concerning the New England Indian's Intentions of removing to this part of the Country provoided the Six Nations would give them a Tract of Land to live on, of about ten Miles Square. To which they Answered that at a full Council of all their People, and Warriors &c: they agreed to what Sir William had proposed, and begged that he would tell such of the New England Indians as were expected soon here, that as their Young men were now going on the *Hunt*, and would not return 'till after the New Year, they should return from hence, and acquaint their People that the Onoidas were ready to comply with their Request, and would be glad to see them in their Nation on their Return from Hunting, when they would shew them a Place to settle on, which if they did not like, they would give them liberty to chuse a Place that might be more agreeable. They then concluded telling Sir William that the Chiefs, and Warriors begged his Advice in the Affairs, which he promised to afford them when they met in the Winter.

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[1] Printed in *The Letters of Eleazar Wheelock's Indians*, edited by James Dow McCallum, pp. 157-58.

Ordered them Ammunition, Provision, and a little Cash to carry them back.

Delivered a Belt and three Strings of
Wampum in Return.

A true Copy from the Records.
Exd. by me
G. JOHNSON, *D. Agt. as Secretary.*

A true Copy from the Extract, which I recieved from the Honorable Sir William Johnson Baronet, at Johnson hall. October 27th 1773. Wrote by me Joseph Johnson, an Indian of the Mohegan Tribe, at Dartmouth College this twenty third day of August AD 1774. at the desire of my Honored Patron, the Reverend Eleazer. Wheelock, D.D. and President of Dartmouth College.

A true Copy, examined, & attested by me
Dartmouth College August 25th 1774

SILVANUS RIPLEY[2]

---

[2] (1749-1787). At this time he was a tutor at Dartmouth College, from which he was graduated in 1771.

FROM ALEXANDER McKEE

Contemporary Copy[1]

Pittsburg October the 16th. 1774[2] [*1773*] —

HONORD SIR —

The inclosed extraordinary Message from the Shawanese was deliver'd in Writing a few Days agoe by one Butler[3] a Trader from the Scioto, by which their Chiefs were apprehensive of some begged his Advice in the Affairs, which he promised to afford them when they met in the Winter.

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[1] In Canadian Archives, Indian Records, Vol. 16; included in McKee's Journal.

[2] It is evident that the date should read 1773.

[3] Richard Butler.

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Mischief being done by the Six Nation Indians settled amongst them, to the Traders; They woud also seem desirous of excusing themselves from any Blame of what is to happen; I have consulted Keyashuta upon this matter who is highly displeased at the Conduct of the Shawanese, as he says it is their Business to keep such of His people who are settled amongst them from doing Evil, It was owing to their bad Advice That those six Nation Indians did not listen to him and the Six Nation Chiefs when they came to remove them hence towards the Six Nation Country; That from their Behaviour now he sees the Shawanese want to act a double part, and is convinced of their Design in persuading the Mingoes to settle at Scioto; He then desired to have a Meeting with the Traders before some of the principal Inhabitants of this place. —

I herewith inclose a Copy of what pass'd at this Meeting for Your Honor's perusal — With Respect to the Traders, This Complaint of Rum has frequently been made but to little purpose, for nothing but their private Interest actuates their Proceedings, when that is out of the Question it is difficult to bring them into any measure for the public Utility unless by compulsion, and when the Law does not support this Method a Prosecution is the Consequence. — I find that none of the Indians, tho' ever so well disposed to the English can relish the Settlements making down the Ohio, and the most reasonable That I have mett with amongst them are extreamly irritated at the Number of White People passing down the River almost every day; The Estimation of the Country there is so very great with all Ranks of people this way that it will be found a difficult matter now to restrain the Settlement thereof, and the Grants from Virginia will greatly expedite this matter. —

There is at present a great Number of Indians here and more expected. I shall not fail of transmitting to your Honor anything that may occur during their Stay here worth your Notice, and have the Honor to be with great Respect.

Your Honors most
Obed^{t}. Humble Servant
A M^{C}.KEE

Hon^{ble}. SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Baronet

TO FREDERICK HALDIMAND

A. L. S.[1]

Johnson Hall Novbr. 25th. 1773

DEAR SIR

Ever since my last my time has been entirely taken up with the Cheifs of the Six Nations, with whom I have at last concluded in the best manner I could, they engaging to make good the loss of the Peltry, & to deliver up the Two Murderers who are yet in one of their Towns, for the Performance of which, they have delivered three Hostages, and indeed it is more than has been before asked of, or complyed with by these Indians, who have hitherto made up all private Acts according to their own Antient Customs. I herewith inclose You a Copy of the Public proceedings, at the same time I should observe to You that the main business is generally conducted in private Conference with a few of the principal Men, Many such I have held in order to bring matters to the Issue I have done. Indeed it has produced much trouble amongst themselves, and the fidelity of one of the Cheifs of the Senecas in urging them to make Ample Satisfaction, occasioned much concern to the dissaffected, a Cheif of whom insulted him, and was by him degraded from the rank of Sachim, and this fellow has since fled to the Southward with a purposed design to create trouble, but I shall try to disapoint him by sending Messages after him to ye. Several Nations.

I must request the favor of your Sentiments on the late transaction & how to act if the Men are delivered me, as I have told the Indians that I should imediately lay the Matter before You As I could not come to any farther determination 'till You were acquainted with what was proposed, on the whole of which I have to remark, that if they comply with these engagements,

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[1] In British Museum. Additional Manuscripts 21670. fo. 95, London, England.

I Apprehend it will establish a good Precedent, and as a private Act will prove Satisfactory.— I have the honor to be with the most sincere regard, Dear Sir,

Your most Obedient
& verry Humble Servant
W JOHNSON

His Excellency
MAJOR GENR^{L}. HALDIMAND

INDORSED: 73
S^{r}. W^{m}. Johnson
of Nov. the 25th. r^{e}. d^{o}. the 30th.
at New Yk

TO RICHARD HIND

Df.[1]

Johnson hall Nov^{r} 25th. 1773.

SIR,

I had the favor of a Letter from D^{r} Burton,[2] dated last Dec^{r}. on the Subject of My Correspondence with him concerning the State of Religion, & of the Societys Missionaries in this Country in which he acquainted me that You was then to succeed him as their Secretary — Since which I was for some time absent for the recovery of my health, as well as occupied with the Affairs of my Department so that I could not sooner tell Dr Burtons worthy Successor how sincerely I am disposed to Con-to the very extraordinary and [ ] attempts to acquire a title to [ ] of Lands in a part of the Country [ ] settlement has been forbidden by [ ] Proclamation. You will do well to [ ] his merit to this respect, to give [ ] support that may enable him by [ ] any Establishment being made in [ ] of those pretended Titles; and to auth[orize] him to declare The King's Disallow[ing] of such unwarrantable proceedings, which can have no other effect than to bring the authority of the Crown into contempt and to disturb the public peace, by exciting the Indians, already too jealou[s of] our growing power, to commence Hostilities

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[1] In American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.; in handwriting of Guy Johnson except the last sentence which is in Sir William's hand. The letter written from this draft and dated Dec. 3, 1773, is in records of Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. B series. Vol. 2. New York, 1759–1782. Part II. Transcript is in Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

[2] Dr Daniel Burton, secretary of the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

FROM THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH

In the Johnson Calendar, p. 525, is listed a letter of December 1st from Dartmouth, Whitehall, considering the danger that the trespasses of the King's subjects and the influence of the French and Spaniards will excite Indian hostilities, inquiring about an alleged message from the French King to the Six Nations and mentioning the death of the Indian secretary (printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 8:404).

ALLEGED MESSAGE FROM FRENCH KING TO SIX NATIONS

Contemporary Copy[1]

[*Date uncertain*]

[[2]]

Translation

"The Salution [ ] former Children of the five Nations [ ] are you yet alive? I yet remember

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[1] A copy of this alleged message contained in a letter from a gentleman in America to a gentleman in England, was inclosed in a letter of Dec. 1, 1773 from Dartmouth to Johnson. *See* Johnson Calendar, p. 525.

[2] Lines burned off.

[ ] five Nations, & am longing to see you [ ] things concerning your Circumstances [ ] that the English have settled all the [ ] made pretensions to by Conquest; are [ ] upon you; are building Towns even up [ ] & are also oppressive in their Trade. The [ ] was not the Conduct of your former Father [ ] King. When I conquered you the five [ ] immediately resigned your Territories, became [ ] Land of that part of the World, that God [ ] you Indians. I owned nothing in your [ ] Wherever I set foot it was upon your Land [ ] dear Children, I resent this Treatment that you [ ] received from the English. I am grieved for [ ] cruel Usage. Courage my Children: Courage my [ ] Your Father is awaking out of his stupor. You h[ave] received a Blow from the English, with which [ ]
[[1]]
[ ] of one mind, in general [ ]
[ ] your old Father within two or three y[ears]
[ ] has many ships in readiness, & Men, & wa[ ]
[ ] stores without Number. By that time, near up[on] Eighty ships will be ready to enter Canada; & an equal Number shall enter the Mississippi for my Southern Children. Then I expect to see you all, furnish you for the field, & supply all your Wants. Your old Father salutes you all & longs to see you."

The above is known only by the Sachems & Head Warriors, who conceal it for the present from the Commonalty. It has wrought strangely upon them. They are expecting a french War, & are ready to cooperate with France in any Attempts against the English. They have for some time been planning an Union among all the different Tribes of Indians as a Counterpoise to the growing power of the Colonies. This Hint was given first at the Congress in 1769 & is like to be pursued till accomplished unless [ ] prevented by special Management.

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[1] Lines burned off.

TO THE ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL

Contemporary Copy[1]

Johnson Hall Dece^r: 9^th: 1773

GENTLEMEN.

I am favoured with a Letter Signed by your Order respecting the lower Mohawks whose unesiness concerning the Claim they understood you laid to their Lands have been of Long Standing. Tho I have at different Times taken much pains to assure them that they need not be uneasy especially as One of the former Mayors of your City declined such Claim and Assured me that it was the Opinion of Gentlemen Learned in the Law that the Claim of the Corporation was Defective of which I have also Sundry Opinions —

His Excellency the Gov^r. when at Albany apprised you fully of his Resolutions in Case his Generous Proposals were not Excepted of, and the affair has since been laid before the assembly Notwithstanding which to manifest how much I am disposed to Gratify the Desire of the Corporation of Albany I am ready to appoint a day without loss of time for the purpose you require Provided there is any Prospect of your Offering Such Proposals as they may probably approve without encreasing their uneasiness and that of their Confederates who have for some time expected the Decission of this matter If therefore you think you can give them Satisfaction therein I shall on receipt of your answer fix upon Monday the 20^th: of this Ins^t when I shall be glad to meet the Gentlemen you appoint at this Place, I am with Esteem Gentlemen

Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
W JOHNSON

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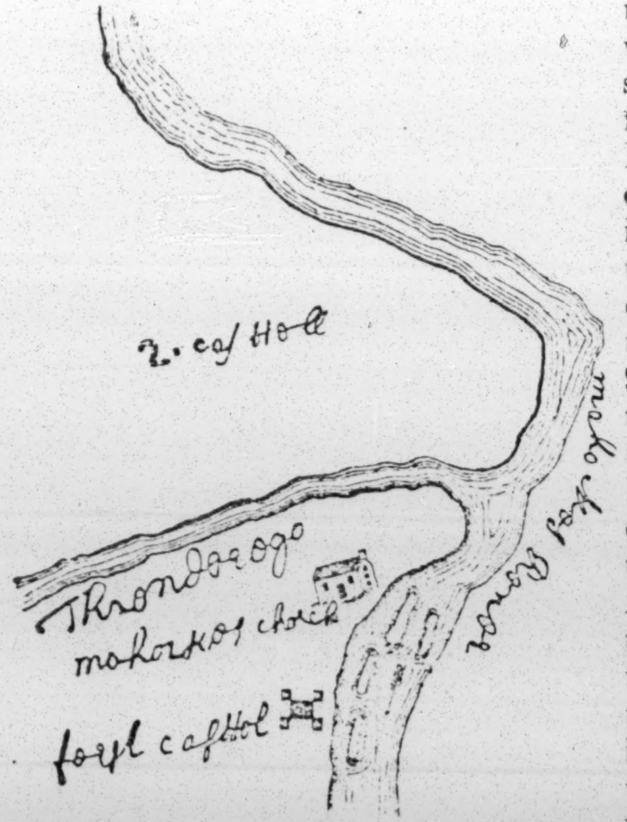
[1] In the manuscript Minutes of the Common Council of the City of Albany, New York, 9:35–6, in New York State Library, Albany, N. Y.; the answer to the Common Council's letter of December 4, 1773.

THE PATENT OF TIONONDEROGA.

The Charter of Gov. Dongan, granted in July 1686, gave the corporation of the city permission to purchase from the Indians one thousand acres of land on the Mohawk, above Schenectady, to be held as a municipal investment. In October of the same year the common council sent commissioners to locate the grant, who selected a tract on the south side of the Mohawk, 56 miles from Albany, since known as Fort Hunter, in Montgomery county, perfecting their business in the manner customary at that time. A diagram of the locality drawn in 1712, is here given from the *Documentary History*, III, 902. In August of the next year the corporation resolved to sell the land thus acquired. Sales or leases were accordingly made to citizens of Albany and Schenectady (*See Annals of Albany*, vol II.). In 1714 and in 1725 further measures were taken to perfect their title, and it would seem that either the first or a more satisfactory Deed from the Indians was obtained in 1730 (*Annals*, IX, 72-3), under Gov. Montgomerie, which was destroyed three years after by Gov. Cosby. Gov. Cosby's statement of the matter in controversy may be found in the *Colonial History*, V, 960. The Board took effective measures to remedy this act of Gov. Cosby (*Annals*, X), and continued to execute leases till 1773, when the subject was again disturbed by Gov. Tryon, who recommended the legislature to pass a law securing these lands to the Mohawks (*Ante*, p. 243). On the 4th Dec. 1773 the clerk by order of the common council addressed the following letter to Sir William Johnson (*Council Minutes*, IX, 33).



Letter to Sir William Johnson.

Hon^d Sir: We have understood that the Mohawk Indians residing in the lower Castle or Village are much disquieted on account of the claim which we under the Charter of this City have to the quantity of one thousand acres at Tionoderoge now in their possession, and as we are sensible that no act of ours can have given any just or reasonable foundation to occasion their uneasiness, we are therefore much concerned that any jealousy or suspicion from an apprehension that this Board would unjustly usurp or encroach on their right should be harbored by them against us, we have therefore resolved to address your Honour as their

Superintendant to request the favour of you that you will be pleased at any time when it may suit your convenience within a fortnight (if possible) to assemble those Indians together so that we or a Committee of this Board may in your presence lay before your Honor and them a just representation of our Proceedings and Claim relative to those lands, and at the same time to offer them such assurances as may tend to dispel and remove any apprehentions they may entertain against this Board. Should this proposal meet your Honors approbation you will be pleased to acquaint us of the time and place of such meeting. We are Hon^{d} Sir

Your most humble and Obedient Servents.

By order of the Corporation. STEP^{N} DE LANCEY, Clerk.

To Sir W^{m} Johnson, Bar^{t}.

Reply of Sir William Johnson.

JOHNSON HALL, Dec. 9th, 1773.

Gentlemen: I am favoured with a Letter signed by your order respecting the lower Mohawks whose uneasiness concerning the Claim they understood you laid to their Lands have been of long standing, tho' I have at different times taken much pains to assure them that they need not be uneasy especially as one of the former Mayors of your City declined such claim and assured me that it was the opinion of Gentlemen learned in the Law that the Claim of the Corporation was defective, of which I have also sundry opinions.

His Excellency the Gov^{r} when at Albany apprised you fully of his resolutions in case his generous Proposals were not excepted of, and the affair has since been laid before the Assembly, notwithstanding which to manifest how much I am disposed to gratify the desire of the Corporation of Albany I am ready to appoint a day without loss of time for the purpose you require, provided there is any prospect of your offering such proposals as they may probably approve without encreasing their uneasiness and that of their Confederates who have for some time expected the decision of this matter. If therefore you think you can give them satisfaction therein, I shall on receipt of your answer fix upon Monday the 20th of this inst. when I shall be glad to meet the Gentlemen you appoint at this place.

I am with esteem Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servent.

W. JOHNSON.

Answer of the Common Council.

ALBANY, Dec. 14, 1773.

Hon Sir: We have received your favour of the 9th inst. in answer to ours of a former date. Were we not well assured in our minds that our intended offer will be satisfactory to those Indians we should not have troubled your Honour with our proposals. We shall therefore attend for the said purpose on your Honour at the time and place fixed on.

We are Hon. Sir, &c.

The Board thereupon appointed Abraham Cuyler, mayor, John H. Ten Eyck, recorder, Gerrit Van Sante, Robert Yates, John Ten Broeck, aldermen, Henry Van Vechten, Cornelius Van Schelluyne and Leonard Gansevoort, assistants, a committee to attend the conference, and directed a deed to be drawn up and signed by the mayor, conveying to the Indians at

Tiononderoga the lands in question, to hold as long as they continued a nation and to be settled there.

The committee met the Indians at the Lower Castle, on the 20th December, and in presence of their superintendent, Sir Wm. Johnson, delivered the following speech (*Ibid*, 37).

Speech to the Mohawks.

Friends and Brethren of the Mohawk Nation of the Lower Castle or Village.

We have requested from Sir William Johnson your attendance here that we might have an opportunity to lay before you a detail of our Claim and Proceedings respecting the Lands of Tiononderoge and that we may also offer you our best assurances to secure those Lands upon the Basis of your former agreements with us and others, and by means whereof endeavour to remove the supposed wrongs and injuries you pretend to have received from us.

It is not unknown to you that our Ancestors the Dutch and English upon their first arrival in this Country were the first white people with whom you entered into an Alliance of Friendship which has remained inviolate from its commencement to this day.

The Inhabitants of the City of Albany the nearest and chief Christian Settlement to you have always cultivated your Friendship and deemed their preservation and interest to be inseparably connected with yours against the Perfedy and Encroachments of the French and their Indian Allies, and as our danger from that quarter was equal we acted in every Emergency like Friends and Brethren by giving and receiving aid and protection of and to each other against the common Enemy.

About eighty-six years ago, while we lived with you on this friendly footing, the Inhabitants of Albany obtained from Thomas Dungan the then Governor over this Province under James the Second, King of England, by Letters Patent or Charter of Incorporation the liberty and licence at their pleasure to purchase from you the quantity of one thousand acres of low or meadow Land at Tiononderoge, which said quantity of one thousand acres the said Thomas Dungan thereby in behalf of his Majesty give, grant and confirm to the said Inhabitants of Albany by the name of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty and their successors forever.

Brethren, Under this grant the Inhabitants of Albany never have or intend to encroach on, or usurp your Lands, but on the contrary always deemed it a happiness as well to them as you that Individuals of your Nation were deprived by this grant from selling Parcels of those Lands to white people and thus your property in those Lands was rendered safe to you and your posterity while a Nation and so long as you continue in possession thereof, yet not long thereafter several of your Nation from motives of interest or otherwise proceeded to sale of divers parcels of those Lands to white men. Here is a Deed by which Tenegwanegie one of your ancestors about 52 years ago sold a piece of this Land to Abraham Cuyler. Here is also a Deed by which Aaron Segehowanic and Colliam about 33 years ago sold to him another parcell of these Lands.

Here is also a certified copy of another Deed whereby Daniel, Gideon, Jacob, Cannestagie, Jacomyne and Senina sold another tract of those Lands about 43 years ago to Peter Brower for the term of 999 years.

And tho we have not at present the Deed in our possession, yet we know and if necessary will prove it that some of your Nation also about the same time sold another parcel of those Lands to Jan Wiemp. We have also heard that several of your Nation were about the same time in contract to sell other parts of those Lands.

Brethren, Your wise men and Sachems being thereupon justly alarmed, convinced the continuance of those bargains would of course break up your Settlement and consequently that your power, influence and very existance would dwindle away, therefore deputed three of their number to apply to us who complaining of those proceedings earnestly requested us in their name to come up to receive from them a Deed for the whole of the said Lands.

Upon this invitation the City of Albany sent John De Peyster, Mayor; Dirck Ten Broeck, Recorder; Ryer Gerritse, Jacob Lansing and Cornelius Cuyler, Aldermen; and John Visscher Jun., Assistant, to your Castle for that purpose. There your Ancestors unanimously executed a Deed for those Lands to us. In trust nevertheless for you the said Mohawk Indians so long as you should be a Nation and be there settled, and from and immediately after the remainder to the City for ever. Thus you devised and put into execution the only expedient which has preserved to you ever since the free use and enjoyment of the residue of those Lands.

The persons who had before bought from you part of those Lands, well knowing that their Title was imperfect unless confirmed by the Kings Grant or Letters Patent and as the City had already such a grant from the Crown, they therefore applyed to us by your consent and approbation and voluntarily became and attaned Tenants under us for those Lands by accepting and taking from us Deeds for the same.

Brethren, After we had received your Deed we deposited the same in the hand of said John Depyster who about three years after the same was intrusted into his custody was requested by William Cosby, our then Governor, who was then in Albany in Treaty with the five Nations to attend on him with the said Deed which he accordingly did, and the said Governor gave it to one Arie an Indian with signs and directions to destroy it, who accordingly tore the Deed in pieces and threw the same into the fire. In this manner against our consent and by the contrivance of a desiguing Governor and one single Indian we lost a Deed executed by your whole Castle.

Brethren, Tho Governor Cosby pretended to act for your interest in destroying this Deed yet we know full well and are able to prove it if necessary that he had in this transaction his own particular interest at heart as we know that he was then in Treaty with you to buy those very same Lands for his own use and the use of his particular friends and therefore contrived the destruction of the Deed, whose existance he conceived the chief obstacle to his design in compleating such self interested designs.

Since which time the heirs of Jan Wiemp have by our order been arrested for refusing or delaying to pay us the rent he had by deed promised to pay.

Thus have we given you a faithfull account of the proceedings of our Ancestors and do hereupon declare we are much at a loss to know from what particular transaction of ours your discontent and jealousy doth arise.

It cannot justly proceed from the right we have to compell those white people to perform their voluntary engagements because no injury can arise to you whether they do or do not pay us those rents.

Nor can it arise from their continuing in possession of those Lands, for we cannot immagin that you are men who when you have once sold Land without any condition would claim them again, nor do we conceive that you can be injured if those people who bought from you do not return you those Lands.

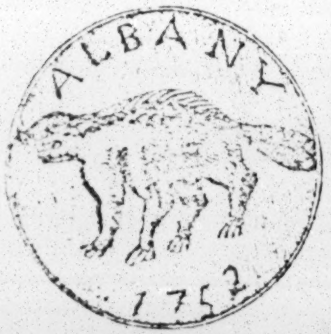
Nor can it be any just cause of jealousy or discontent to you that they have by agreement thus obligated themselves to us, they were not your servents or slaves, they were free men and could without any injury to you become our Tenants.

Respecting the remainder of the Lands at Tionnonderoge which your whole Village conveyed to us in the manner we have mentioned before, have we ever presumed to take any possession of it or have we placed any Tenants on it. Surely not, and if we had we would have done wrong because those Lands are yours so long as you remain a Nation and are there settled, and we do declare before you and the whole world that we have no right or pretention to it untill after your removal or extinction as a Nation.

But least you should be doubtfull to trust to this solemn Declaration in order wholy to cure your minds we shall give you more substantial proofs of our sincerity. Here we offer you a Deed by us executed for that purpose.

That at the close of the said Speech they offered to the said Indians the Deed heretofore by order of this Board executed, which said Deed is of the following contents:

To all to whom these Presents shall come, we the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany send Greeting. **Whereas** Thomas Dungan Esquire, formerly Lieutenant Governor of this Province under his Majesty King James the Second did by Charter or Letters of Incorporation to the City of Albany under the great Seal of the said Province, bearing date the twenty-second day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and eighty-six, among other things therein contained grant unto the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the said City of Albany the full Liberty and Licence at their Pleasure to Purchase from the Indians the Quantity of one thousand Acres of Low or Meadow Land lying at a certain Place called or known by the name of Tionondoroge, which quantity of one thousand Acres of low or meadow Land should or might be in what part of Tionondoroge or the Lands adjacent on both sides of the River as the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the said City of Albany should think most convenient, which said parcel of low or meadow Land he the said Thomas Dungan in behalf of his said Majesty, his heirs and successors did give, grant and confirm unto the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany aforesaid, to be and remain to the use and behoff of them and there successors for ever. To have and hold all and singular the said Premises to the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the said City of Albany and their successors forever, **Rendering & Paying** therefore unto his most sacred Majesty, his heirs, successors and assigns, or to such officer or receiver as shall be appointed to receive the same yearly forever thereafter the annual quit rent or acknowledgment of one Beaver skin in Albany on the five and twentieth day of March forever. **And whereas** after the grant of the said Letters Patent or Charter of Incorporation the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty on the applycation and at the request of the Mohawks Indians residing at the Lower Village or Castle did accept and take from them a Deed in due form of Law executed and bearing Date the twelfth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty for the said quantity of one thousand Acres scituate at Tionondoroge aforesaid, which was then within the County of Albany but now is part of the County of Tryon. By which said Deed the Lands were granted to the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty and their successors. In trust nevertheless for the said Mohawks Indians so long as they shall continue a Nation and be settled on the said Lands, and from and immediately thereafter the remainder to the only proper use and behoof to the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, their successors and assigns for ever. **And whereas** after the execution of the said Deed it was intrusted to the care and custody of John Depeyster, the then Mayor of the City of Albany, who remained the possessor thereof untill the twelfth day of September in the year one thousand seven hundred and thirty-three, when upon a Message he received from his Excellency William Cosby Esq., then Governor of this Province, requiring his attendance on him with the said Indian Deed he delivered the same into his hands for the purpose of communicating its contents to the Indians with whom his said Excellency was then in treaty at the City of Albany. **And whereas** the said William Cosby after having examined the said Deed gave it to Lauranee Clase the sworn Indian Interpreter with directions to interpret the same to the Indians who were then about six or seven in number present. **And whereas** after the interpretation thereof the said William Cosby advised with the said Indians what should be done with the said Deed, who thereupon declared that if he thought proper he might keep the same, and upon his declining to take the charge thereof thereupon requested the said William Cosby to return the said Deed to the said John Depeyster to remain in his custody and care, requireing at the same time a copy thereof to preserve among themselves. The said John De Peyster readily promised the said Indians that they should be favoured with a copy, wherewith the said Indians appeared satisfied. **And whereas** notwithstanding the said agreement of the said Mayor and Indians the said William Cosby tho' repeatedly urged by the said John De Peyster to have the Deed redelivered to him refused complying, but instead thereof delivered the said Deed to one of the said Indians named Arie with signs and directions to have the same destroyed, who thereupon tore the said Deed into pieces and threw the same into the fire. **And whereas** previous to the execution of the said Indian Deed to the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty to wit, on the fourteenth day of June in the year one thousand seven hundred and twenty-one, two of the said Mohawk Indians had conveyed the quantity of eleven morgans, part of the said one thousand Acres to Abraham Cuyler in fee, whose heirs afterwards to wit, the twenty-fourth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine, obtained from the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty for the consideration of thirty pounds an absolute release and conveyance for the same, recourse being had to the said Indian Deed and conveyance may more fully and at large appear. **And whereas** also previous to the execution of the said Indian Deed to us the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty to wit, on the seventh day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty, some of the Sachims of the said Mohawks Indians had conveyed the quantity of ten or eleven morgan more or less of low or meadow Land, part of the said one thousand acres, to Peter Brower for the term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years, who afterwards to wit, the twenty-ninth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty-four, by indenture of release did for the consideration therein mentioned sell, assign and set over the said quantity of ten or eleven morgans to us the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty and our successors the said term yet unexpired as may more fully and at large appear by the said Indian Deed and assignment relation being thereunto had. **And whereas** the said Peter Brower afterwards to wit, the twenty-seventh day of April in the year one thousand seven hundred and forty-nine applied to us and obtained from the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty a Lease for the said quantity of ten or eleven morgans for the said term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years under an annual rent of one Skipple of wheat for each morgan as may more fully and at large appear by the counterpart of the said lease. **And whereas** also previous to the execution of the said Indian Deed to the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty the said Mohawk Indians or some of them had conveyed to Jan Wemp the quantity of twenty-two morgan, part of the said one thousand Acres. **And whereas** the said Jan Wemp afterwards to wit, on the thirteenth day of September in the year one thousand seven hundred and thirty-seven applyed to and obtained from the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty a Deed or conveyance for the said quantity of twenty-two morgan under an annual rent, as may more fully and at large appear by the counterpart of the said Deed executed by the said Jan Wemp recourse being thereunto had. **And whereas** divers uneasinesses have since arisen in the minds of the said Indians residing on the said Land who conveyed the said premises as abovesaid and their descendants from a supposition that we the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty would take the benefit and advantage of the grant mentioned in the said Charter or Letters of Incorporation and by virtue thereof eject or oust the present said Indian possessors from their possession of the Premises as aforesaid. For the purpose therefore of quieting the minds of the said Indians and for securing to them the use of the said Lands agreeable to the Reservation or Trust expressed in the said Indian purchase except the quantity of morgans the said Indians had conveyed to others as above said and also to evince the equitable conduct of us the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty for and towards the said Indians, **Know ye,** that we the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty have hereby for and in consideration of the premises surrendered, assigned and set over, and by these Presents do grant, bargain, assign and set over unto the said Indians, dwelling and residing at the said Lower Mohawk Village or Castle and their descendants all the estate, right, title, interest, benefit, claim and demand whatsoever, which we the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty have or may have or claim of, in or to the said quantity of one thousand acres, scituate and described as above said, granted to us as aforesaid, excepting as abovesaid, **To have and to hold** the same excepting as aforesaid unto the said Indians dwelling or residing at the said Lower Village or Castle and to their descendants so long as they shall continue a Nation and be settled on the said Lands, remainder to the use of us the said Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of Albany and our successors for ever. So that neither we the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty or our successors or assigns at any time hereafter so long, they the said Indians shall continue a Nation and be settled on the said Lands, shall or will ask, demand, claim or challenge any Intres, Benefit or Previledge in any respect or manner whatsoever in or to the said above surrendered and assigned Premises or any part thereof excepting as aforesaid by reason, couler or means of the said in part recited Charter or Letters of Incorporation or Indian purchase or any Clause, Grant, Matter or Thing therein contained or otherwise howsoever during the time last aforesaid, but thereof and therefrom, and of and from all actions, suits and demands whatsoever which we, our successors or assigns may have concerning the same shall be wholly and intirely barret during the time last above mentioned.



City Seal.

In Testimony whereof for and on behalf of us the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Albany, the said Mayor hath hereunto set his hand and caused the publick seal of the City of Albany to be hereunto affixed pursuant to a Resolve of Common Council made and entered this eighteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-three.

ABR^{M} C. CUYLER, Mayor.

Sign'd Seal'd and Delivered
in the presence of
Henry Bleecker,
W. Mancius.

That the said Indians then took the said Deed and informed the said Committee that they would on the day following give in their answer.

That the said Committee on the next day pursuant to Sir Williams invitatation again waited on him and the said Indians and then received the following answer:

Johnson Hall, Dec^{r} 21st, 1773.—Present, Sir William Johnson, Bar^{t}; Coll. Claus, Coll. Guy Johnson. Coll. John Butler, Interpreter.

Indians Present.—Abraham, Arent, White Hans, Isaac, Harmes Canadagaye, Lowranee, Seth, David, Peter, Abr^{m} Hans's Son Cornelius.

One Abraham, an Indian Sachem of the lower Mohawk Castle, answered our Speech we delivered yesterday in the following manner:

We have considered of your Speech of yesterday and are now a going to answer it.

1st. I do not pretend to enter into the first part of your Speech in relation to friendship, the wars and so forth.

2d. You said that in regart to the lands at Tionondoroge that they were sold and parcelled out by pieces by some of us to white people. It was not then as it is now when we went or sent to the City of Albany to give a Deed to you when one or two could give a Deed and not a whole Castle.

3d. You said that the people of Albany came up and complyed with our request and took a Deed from us in trust for us and out of friendship.

4th. In regard to the Deed you took then there was then as much love on our part as on yours, the friendship was mutual.

5th. We have been much more generous and grateful to you than you have been to us, we have given away to you the Lands at Albany at

Schenectady for nothing, and we have by presents and gifts made several several amongst you rich.

6th. We have also given away for nothing the Lands above Schenectady particularly to Hansen and several other persons to whom we had been gratefull.

7th That notwithstanding the friendship and regard you say you have for us you will take from us the little spot which never cost you any thing, is this friendship? Why have you sued Wemple? Last war I have been myself with the army to fight the French with others of my nation in hopes to preserve our Lands, while you in Albany stayed home; and is this friendship now to take them away? While we were at war many settled on our Lands.

8th. The wars you had with the French we have always joined you and in so doing we have lost a great many of our men which at present reduces us to an inconsiderable number and we could not expect from our Brethren that after we had rendered them such services in those wars that you would take our Lands from us. From this treatment we cannot soe the love and friendship you say you have for us. Where is it gone? Is it lost?

You say that our Deed was given to you in trust to us as long as we remain a Nation. What is meant by it, would you turn us of those Lands when we have only about 12 houses. And tho' we are inconsiderable by ourselves yet our friends are jealous of your claim, and if you take away this Land it may be the reason of a fire to breat out of which you would be the occasion and we know the trouble Sir William has already had to keep them quiet.

Lands have often been the occasion of quarrels, a representation from that motive was made to the King, and to prevent futer disputes a meeting of several Nations of Indians was called together at Fort Stanwix when a Boundary Line was fixed between us and the white people. We mentioned it then in publick that as we lived within that Line and that our Lands should be secured to us, to which all the nations assented and agreed, since which time his Majesty has been pleased to confirm the proceedings of that Congress and so we thought our possession still more sure.

I shall not pretend to go thro' the whole of your Speech, yet we must tell you that when the English were at war with the Tuscaroras, they yet purchased from them Lands, and you who never quarreled with us and who were always your friends want to take away our Lands for nothing.

Our uneasiness of our minds arises from the Lands and we want you to give up your claim to them entirely; we will have our Lands again absolutely.

In regard to the Deed you have offered us we know nothing about, we leave that to Sir William.

This all we have to say, we do not chuse to repeat the whole. But you must not be in a hurry, for you have had a long time to consider and we have had but a short time and it will be for the intrest of us both that this thing is amicably settled.

That at the close of the said Answer they redelivered to this Board in the presence of their Superintendant the said Deed by us given to them.

That thereupon the said Committee gave them the following reply:

Brethren: We have heard and considered your answer to our Speech or Proposal of yesterday; we are extreamly sorry that you seam dissatisfied with our generous offer of a Deed executed by us and delivered to you in order totally to pacify your minds respecting the Lands at Tiononderoge, and as you mention that you conceive it will be for the intrest of us both to have the matter settled if you should hereafter have any thing to propose on the subject we shall at all times be willing and ready to hear you and take the same into consideration.

By which representation of the said Committee of their negotiation with the said Mohawk Indians as above mentioned it appears that the said Indians were not fully satisfied with the offer made them by the order of this Board, and being informed by the said Committee that their Superintendant Sir William Johnson, Bar^{t}, had honored their meeting with his presence, it is Resolved that the thanks of this Board should be given him for the trouble and pains he has taken in that affair and that the same be transmitted to him accordingly by Mr. Mayor.

JOHNSON HALL, Dec^{r} 28th, 1773.

Sir: I judge it an act of Justice and Friendship to acquaint you that the Mohawks continued in Councill for above an hour after the departure of the Committee the other day, when they sent a message to me expressing their surprize that the Gentlemen had set out for Albany, observing that when you left them in the room they had expected you retired some where to deliberate more seriously on their Speech and the matter before you as they had desired. That as the offers you had made did not appear to them to be any additional security or satisfaction they hoped to see you disposed to enter into a Treaty the result of which might prove more favourable to their interest, but as they were informed you had actually set out for Albany they requested to speak to me in publick previously to their departure accordingly I went into the room attended by the Gentlemen here where we had a short Conference of which I herewith send you a copy.

I have only to remark that the Indians who are sencible that they are ignorant of Law and the operation of Conveyances &c. were naturally inclined and really ment to have my advice and such as I could procure before they proceeded farther and that they were fully persuaded you would have been more explicit on the material point of the duration of their possession previous to their saying any thing farther. I must therefore request that you will communicate this with the inclosed to the Corporation that I may with all convenient speed be enabled to tell the Indians whether you will enter into any Treaty with them that may lead to the amicable settlement of this matter and the determining on that material point. If so I shall readily afford you all the friendship I can consistently offer, persuaded that the Mohawks will listen to reason and join their proposals for an amicable settlement, otherwise I must (altho very disagreeable) be compelled to endeavour to procure them satisfaction without delay agreeable to the mode they have proposed. I am Sir, with much esteem,

Your most humble Servant.

To Abraham C. Cuyler Esq. W. JOHNSON.

P. S. Since writing the foregoing (there being no opportunity of getting over the River) I was favoured with your Letter inclosing the Resolutions of the Board. I take this opportunity of returning them my best thanks for their polite mention of me as well as to you Sir for the manner in which you transmitted them.

Extract from the Proceedings at a meeting with the Committe of the Corporation of the City of Albany and the Mohawk Indians held at Johnson Hall on the 21st and 22d of December, 1773—Present, Sir Wm. Johnson, Bart., Superintend^{t}; Dan^{l} Claus, Guy Johnson, Esq^{s}, Dep^{y} Ag^{ts}; John Butler, Esq., Interp^{r}; Alexander White, Esq., High Sheriff of Tryon County; Joseph Chew, Esq.; John Deas, Esq.; Mr. Daly.

At 4 P. M. the Mohawks sent to Sir W^{m} Johnson to acquaint him that they were surprized the Committee had retired so abruptly and that they had a few words to mention to him previous to their going home, and being assembled, Abraham arose and addressed Sir William as follows:

Brother: We requested to speak a few words to you before we depart.

Brother: When you first acquainted us that the Albany Committe desired to settle matters amicably here with us we agreed to attend with the same disposition, but we find from the proceeding, particularly from their last speech and abrupt departure that they had not the inclination they professed.

Nevertheless to show our generous inclination we are disposed to wait a few days to hear whether they have further considered the matter according to our desire and whether they acquaint us of their Resolutions. But should they neglect to do this, then it is our particular request that you will lay our case immediately before the great King and request the assistance of the Governor of New York that we may receive Justice. We rely on you Brother, that you will do this, for we are fully convinced seeing they have taken no notice of our preference to you that we have no other hopes of redress or means of preventing the evil consequences that may ensue.

To which Sir William answered:

Brothers: I have heard you with attention and am concerned that the Gentlemen of the Committee withdrew without offering any thing further on the subject of their coming to this place.

I shall agreeable to your desire wait a reasonable time to hear the issue of their farther deliberation but should nothing favourable to your desires be offered by the Corporation you may rest assured that I shall lay the state of your affair before his Majesty and request the coöpperation of his Excellency the Governor. In the mean time I desire you will rest satisfied with the readiness of Government to afford you all the Justice your cause shall appear to deserve.

A True Copy Ex^{d} by G. JOHNSON, D. A., as Sec^{y}.

Resolved by this Board that the following answer be signed by the Clerk and sent to Sir William by the Post.

ALBANY, Jan^{y} 8th, 1774.

Hon^{d} Sir: Mr. Mayor has this day communicated to this Board your favour of the 28th ultimo together with an extract of the subsequent Conference the Mohawk Indians had with your Honour upon the subject matter of what the Committe had offered them on the preceding day relative to the Lands at Tionondoroge, which being taken into our most serious consideration we observe to your Honour that as this Board entertained no doubt but that their offer of the Deed declaring anew the uses whereon formerly the ancestors of those Indians had divested themselves of those Lands would have fully answered the purpose of given compleat satisfaction to them. From a firm persuasion of its producing those salutary effects our Committee had nothing farther in charge than the offer of that Deed together with the Speech preceding that offer.

They appear however dissatisfied with the Committees abrupt departure and thereupon insinuate as if this Board were disinclined to enter into an amicable settlement of this dispute. The contrary whereof we conceive we have manifested by offering a Deed or security superior as to authenticity to the uses reserved in the Deed their ancestors formerly at their own earnest request executed to this Board nor could they justly charge the Committee with abruptness in leaving them, when it appears from their answer that nothing would satisfy them but an absolute reconveyance of those Lands, which the Committee had no power to do. nor could they complain of the unexpectedness of their departure as the Committee in their reply to the Indians told them they were sorry that their generous offer was not complyed with and in case they should at any time thereafter have any thing farther to propose to the Corporation on the subject we should at all times be willing to hear them and take the same into consideration. Upon which the said Committee in a formal manner took leave of those Indians.

This Board readily agrees that the Indians are ignorant of the opperation of the Law upon Deeds and Conveyances and of course that they are diffidend of their own Judgment in matters beyond their abilitys to determine upon but the Committee had conceived that as the Indians had this Deed with them for a day, during which time they could avail themselves of your Honours opinion thereon together with the advice of Council then present, that they therefore returned the Deed in consequence of your Honours disapprobation of its contents. But should this be misapprehended we have no objection that your Honour may be furnished with a copy of the same for your future consideration.

In their answer to the Speech they required from the Committee an explicit definition of the term "Nation," for the purpose of knowing from them what idea this Board had of the duration of their Possessions which depends upon their existance as a People by that distintion. To which we must observe that as the Ancestors of those Indians were pleased to part with their Lands and only reserve the use thereof as long as they were a Nation and settled thereon, this Board do not call their Title any ways in question untill their removal or extincion as a Nation, and therefore they conceive it improper they should be called upon to give an explanation of terms which are not in dispute at present. And should those terms be at any future time unfortunately drawn in question it is well known that this Board as a body intrested in its determination cannot be Judges, and consequently their explanation now or at any future time can not affect the rights of the Natives. This Board also from a cautious regard on the one hand to the rights of the natives and on the other hand to the sacred trust reposed in them by the City under a Royal Charter, would chuse to avoid as far as possible the sensure of both the natives and Citizens which a presumptious or inconsiderate explanation might entail on us.

Notwithstanding these our sentiments we readily would embrace your Honours offer of entering into a farther Treaty with the Natives in order to come to final settlement, and while we acknowledge with gratitude your

Honours goodness in offering us your friendship towards procuring an amicable settlement upon consistent terms we humbly conceive as we have already made a generous offer of a Deed with which the natives refused to comply, if they are sincerely inclined to treat with us any farther on the subject they ought to make their said proposals to this Board for that purpose and we'll take the same into our consideration.

Signed by order of the Corporation. STEP^{N} DE LANCEY, Clerk.

Letter of Sir William Johnson.

JOHNSON HALL, Feb^{y} 16th, 1774.

Gentlemen: I some time since was favoured with y^{r} Letter of the 8th ult^{o} on the subject of my last concerning y^{e} Mohaw Indians, whom I assembled as soon after as I could, communicated to them what you had farther offered on the matter recommending it to them to consider of some proposal to be made on their parts towards settling the dispute without carrying it farther. The Indians observed that they thought the explanation of the term Nation a very just and reasonable request, that it might as well be determined now as at any other period, and they are intirely of opinion that none of their Ancestors had this term explained to them when that Deed was executed and that it is more than probable they did not know its real contents especially as there is no proof that it was fully explained, interpreted and understood, as was, and is, customary in transactions of y^{t} sort. However at my repeated desire they took it into farther consideration and acquainted me that in consequence of my advice and to manifest their hearty inclination to determine the matter in an amicable way they proposed that a Deed should be given to them for the Land in dispute, to hold so long as three Families remained in that place, and that should these incline to relinquish the possession they should receive gratuity for so doing, and also that situation of the 1000 Acres of Low Land be particularly described. They at the same time declare that they did not make this offer from any doubt within themselves of the justness of their case, but purely to shew their love for Peace and their regard for my advice, and that as they thought it a very fair one it was the only one they would ever make.

I therefore now transmit you this their offer, requesting to know as quick as possible whether you will enter into a Treaty upon this offer or not. And I flatter myself you must join me in opinion that it is in honour and conscience highly reasonable to come to an early explanation of the vague term that must ultimately be explained and that the Deed they require is not unfavourable to you; should you think differently I shall be necessitated with all possible dispatch to lay the whole of the matter before his Majesty which must give much trouble to all Parties, and when probably it will not be viewed in the same favourable light in which it appears to you. It will give me great pleasure to find that this matter is settled as proposed, because I am Gentlemen

Your Real wellwisher & Humble Servant.

W. JOHNSON.

Thereupon the Board resolved to appoint Robert Yates, Peter W. Yates and Leonard Gansevoort as a Committee to draw an Answer, which is as follows:

Reply of the Board to Sir William Johnson.

ALBANY, March 2d, 1774.

Hon^d Sir: We have received your favour of the 16th ult^o in answer to ours of a former date.

The trouble your Honour receives on account of the dispute the Indians have commenced against us relative to the Lands at Tionondoroge gives us a sencible concern and we cannot sufficiently acknowledge our gratitude for the pains you have taken to obtain a final settlement thereof.

We cannot agree with the Indians that (previous to any agreement with them) it would be necessary for us to explain to them the term "Nation," for the reasons already assigned in ours of a former date. And tho the Indians may be ever so clear of opinion that at the time of the execution of the Deed, their Ancestors were strangers to the contents thereof, and particularly that the term Nation was not explained to them. Yet this Board entertains no doubt but that they are able (should they unfortunately be driven to that issue) to prove that the whole Deed was interpreted to them and explained by Council of their own chosen. Besides the term Nation is neither a technical term in our language or such a word to which theirs doth not affix a certain determinate idea, an explanation therefore at its execution was even rendered unnecessary or at least superfluous. This remark is evinced in our opinion upon the consideration that they and when their Allies are mentioned by them or us they are usually distinguished by way of pre-eminence by the term of five or six Nations; it must therefore follow that they fully understood the propriety of the term when applyed to a People or a collective body of Men, and whenever they cease to be such they must know when the term doth also cease to be proper.

Notwithstanding these remarks we are well pleased that the Indians in compliment to your Honours advise appear disposed to settle amicably with us, but the offer they make in consequence thereof we conceive an insufficient basis to ground a settlement on as it is more than probable if agreed to instead of determining a controvesy would hereafter be the means of creating a new subject for litigation. For by their offer to us to accept a Deed whereby their Lands may be secured to them as long as three "Families" remain thereon, the term Family would probably hereafter be conceived a more indefinite and vague term than that of Nation by your Honour. For example it may be construed to signify a whole Tribe originated from a common ancestor, a man and wife with their immediate descendents, and even a single person settled and transacting his own business and concerns. For these reasons we decline acceding to their proposals.

But in order to shew how sincerely we are inclined to make an amicable settlement with them we would willingly agree on the following terms:

1st. That an exact survey be made of one thousand Acres of the Flatts by a Surveyor or Surveyors mutually agreed on by this Board and the Indians.

2d. That such Surveyor or Surveyors shall then in their presence and pursuant to such directions as are made and agreed to amongst the said Indians survey and lay out their respective Farms, Claims or Shares.

3d. That then such Surveyor or Surveyors make exact maps of such survey and divisions, one whereof to be subscribed by the said Surveyors and this Board to be delivered to the said Indians and another to be also signed by the said Surveyors and the Indians and to be delivered to us.

4th. That the three several Tracts heretofore by the Indians sold to Cuyler, Brower and Wemple be also separately surveyed and laid out on such Map and that they or their heirs or assigns in severalty shall hold the same as Tenants under this Board according to the Deed to them executed by this Board.

5th. That there be also noted on such Maps the number of the Indian proprietors now residing and occupying the premises together with an account of their Children who also reside there.

6th. That this Board agree to execute a Deed to these Indians thereby releasing to each family or person and his and their descendants, his farm, claim or share in severalty for so long a time as they and their descendants do respectively remain settled thereon and are the actual occupiors thereof, provided nevertheless that the several farms, claims and shares revert to this Board from time to time as each of those Families shall become extinct or remove therefrom. And provided also that this Board shall have the exclusive right to buy their farms whenever the Indians before the contingency takes place should be inclined to sell all or any part of those Lands upon such reasonable terms as can be agreed on.

7th. That the said Indiaas execute to this Board a countepart of such Deed.

These are only the out lines of our proposals which we are willing to alter or amend whereaver it shall appear that some parts thereof are exceptionable or where any improvement can be suggested.

But should the Indians disaprove this mode of settlement we then instead thereof are willing to agree with them on the following terms:

That an exact survey be made of the 1000 Acres as above and that we are then willing to release to them in fee our claim to a part thereof, provided they on their parts release in fee to this Board as a body corporate, the remainder, including the three Tracts beforementioned. But we leave it to them to offer us how much of those Lands upon these terms they are willing to release and if we find their offer reasonable we will close with it. Nevertheless should those Indians appear averse to a settlement on either of these proposals we must observe to your Honour that we in such case adhere to the Deed of settlement we have already tendered, because we are fully convinced that the same is consonant to and squares with the Deed the Indians executed to this Board and we do therefore declare that the above offers are made from a sinseere of peace, but not from any diffidence of the justness of our claim.

We are Hon^{d} Sir, &c.

Signed by order of Common Council.

STEP^{N} DE LANCEY, Clerk.

To Sir William Johnson, Bar^{t},
Superintendant of Indian Affairs.

Alexander White Esq^{r}.— High Sherrif
Joseph Chew — Esq^{r}
John Dease Esq^{r}
M^{r}. Daly —

[Brother

We requested to speak a Few words to you before we depart

Brother/

When you first acquainted us that the Albany Committee desired to Settle Matters amicably here with us we agreed to attend with the same Disposition but we find from the Proceeding, Particularly from their last Speech and abrupt Departure that they had not the Inclination they Professed

Nevertheless to shew our generous Inclination we are Disposed] to wait a few days to hear [whether they have further Considered the matter] according to our desire, and whether [they acquaint us of their] resolutions, but shou'd they neglect to do this, [then it is our Particular] Request that you will lay our Case immediately before [the great King and] request the assistance of the Governor of New York, [that we may] receive Justice.—We rely on you, Brother, that you will [do this for we] are fully convinced, seeing they took no notice of our [Reference to] you that we have no other Hopes of Redress or means [of Preventin]g the evil Consequences that may ensue —

To which Sir William answered.—

Brothers —

I have heard you with Attention, and am concerned [that the] Gentlemen of the Committee withdrew without offering any [thing furt]her on the Subject of their coming to this Place.— I shall [agreeab]le to your desires, wait a reasonable time to hear the Issue of their Deliberations.— but shou'd nothing favourable to your [desires] be offered by the Corporation, you may rest assured that I shall [lay the] State of your Affairs before his Majesty, and request the [coopper]ation of his Excellency the

Governor of New York.—In the [mean]time I desire you will rest satisfied with the Readiness of [Gouver]nment to afford you all the Justice your Case shall appear [to] deserve.—

INDORSED:

[ ] of the Proceedings at a
Meeting with a Committee of
the Corporation of the City of
Albany, & the Mohock Indians —
Johnson Hall 21st Decr. 1773

SPEECH OF ABRAHAM

Contemporary Copy[1]

Johnson Hall Decr: 21st: 1773.

Present

Sir William Johnson Bart:
Coll Claus
Coll Guy Johnson
Coll John Butler Interpreter

Indians Present

Abraham
Arent
White Hans
Isaac
James Canadagaye
Lowranee
Seth
David
Peter
Abrm Hans's Son
Cornelius.

We have Considered of your Speech of Yesterday and are now a going to answer it

1st: I do not Pretend to enter into the first part of your Speech in relation to Friendship, the wars and so forth

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[1] In the manuscript Minutes of the Common Council of the City of Albany, New York, in the New York State Library, Albany, N. Y.

In the Council Minutes the document is preceded by the following statements:

"That the said Indians then took the said deed and Informed the said Committee that they would on the Day following give in their Answer.

2d: You said that in regard to the lands at Tionondoroge that they were sold and parcelled out by Pieces by some of us to White people It was not then as it is now when we went or sent to the City of Albany to give a Deed to you when one or two could give a Deed and not a whole Castle

3dly: You said that the People of Albany came up and Complyed with our request and took a Deed from us in trust for us and out of Friendship

4th: In regard to the Deed you took then there was then as much Love on our parts as on yours the Friendship was mutual

5tly: We have been much more generous and Grateful to you than you have been to us we have given away to you the Lands at Albany at Schenectady for Nothing and we have by Presents and Gifts made Several amongst you Rich

6tly. We have also given away for nothing the Lands above Schenectady particularly to Hansen and several Other Persons to whom we have been gratefull

7tly: That notwithstanding the friendship and regard you say you have for us you will take from us the little spot from us which never Cost you any thing is this friendship? Why have you sued Wemple? Last war I have been myself with the army

---

That the said Committee on the next Day Pursuant to Sir Williams Invitation again waited on him and the said Indians and then received the following Answer."

At the close of the letter the Council Minutes read as follows:

"That at the Close of the said Answer they redelivered to this Board in the Presence of their Superintendant the said Deed by us Given to them

That thereupon the said Committee gave them the following reply:

Brethren

We have heard and Considered your answer to our Speech or proposal of Yesterday we are extreamly sorry that you seem Dissatisfied with our generous Offer of a Deed executed by us and Delivered to you in order totally to pacify your minds respecting the Lands at Tiononderoga and as you mention that you Conceive it will be for the Intrest of us both to have the Matter Settled if you should hereafter have any thing to propose on the Subject we shall at all times be willing and ready to hear you and Take the same into Consideration.

to fight the French with Others of my nation in hopes to preserve our Lands while you in Albany stayed home and is this friendship now to take them away While we were at war many Settled on our Lands

8^{tly}: The wars you had with the French we have always joined you and in so doing we have Lost a great many of our men which at Present reduces us to an inconsiderable number and we Could no[t] expect from our Brethren that after we had rendered them such Services in those wars that you would take our Lands from us From this Treatment we cannot see the Love and Friendship you say you have for us. Where is it gone? Is it lost?

You say that our Deed was given to you in Trust to us as long as we remain a Nation What is meant by it, would you turn us of those Lands when we have only about 12 Houses. And tho we are inconsiderable by our selves yet out Friends are jealous of your Claim and if you take away this Land it may be the reason of a Fire to Break out of which you would be the Occasion and we know the Trouble Sir William has already had to keep them quiet

Lands have often been the Occasion of Quarrels a Representation from that motive was made to the King and to prevent futer Disputes a meeting of several Nations of Indians was Called together at Fort Stanwix when a Boundry Line was fixed between us and the white People we mentioned it then in Publick that as we lived within that Line and that our Lands Should be

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By which Representation of the said Committee of their Negotiation with the said Mohawk Indians as above mentioned it appears that the said Indians were not fully Satisfied With the Offer made them by the Order of this Board and being informed by the said Committee that their Superintendant Sir William Johnson Bar^{t}: had Honoured their meeting with his Presence It is Resolved that the thanks of the Board should be given him for the Trouble and pains he has taken in that affair and that the same be Transmitted to him accordingly by M^{r} Mayor."

secured to us to which all the nations assented and agreed since which time his Majesty has been Pleased to confirm the Proceedings of that Congress and so we thought our possessions still more sure

I shall not pretend to go thr'o the whole of your speech, yet we must Tell you that when the English were at war with the Toskaroras, they yet purchased from them Lands and you who never Quarreled with us and who were always your friends want to take away our Lands for nothing

Our uneasiness of our minds arises from the Lands and We want you to give up your Claim to them intirely we will have our Lands again absolutely

In regard to the Deed you have offered us we know nothing about we leave that to Sir William

This all we have to say we do not chuse to repeat the whole But you must not be in a Hurry for you have had a Long time to Consider and we have had but a Short time and it will be for the Intrest of us both that this thing is amicably settled.

FROM JOHN BLAGGE

A. L. S.

New York 22d Decr 1773.

Dr. & Hond. Sir

I took the liberty of writing the 15th of last Month since wch. I have not had the pleasure of hearing from you; agreeable to what I therein mentioned I set out for West Chester the next day & returned with Mr. Dick who shewed great marks of contrition, and behaved himself exceedingly well indeed untill the 7 Inst. when he run away again without my being able to assign the least reason for this his vilanous Conduct.— At the time he was apprehended last he was so far as Colo. Philips's on his way to the Hall, & when I considered the expence already attending his elopement, & that it was more than probable he wou'd still endeavour to reach it, I on purposely delayed advertising him, & the more especially as there are people enough between this place and that who wou'd make no scruple of stopping him without the Authority of an Advertizement and the offer of a Reward for that purpose.

In my last I requested the favour that you woud be pleased just to mention to his Excellency the Governor that you approved of M^r^ Lefferty's being appointed Surrogate in my room, as he declined doing it, without he was assured that it was agreeable; I sincerely ask pardon Sir for troubleing you with a recital of this matter, and hope you will please to admit M^r^ Leffertys solicitude for the appointment, and my own desire for the Business of the County's being properly discharged as my excuse in this affair.— I wish you much Health Sir & the Compliments of the approaching Season & am with very Great Respect & esteem D^r^. and Hon^d^. Sir

Your much Obliged
and very Hble Servant
JOHN BLAGGE

Hon^ble^. SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar^t^

INDORSED:[1]

Decb^r^. 22^d^. 1774[2]

M^r^. Blagges letter —

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[1] In Johnson's hand.

[2] Should read "1773."

ADDRESSED:

To
The Honer^{ble}
Sir William Johnson Bar^{t} &cc
Johnson Hall

INDORSED:[1]

Decb^{r}. 18th. 1773 —

M^{r}. Jn^{o}. B. V Ep's letter

FROM JOHN H. TEN EYCK, ROBERT YATES, THOMAS HUN AND JOHN TEN BROECK

The Johnson Calendar, p. 525, lists a letter from John H. Ten Eyck, recorder, and Robert Yates, Thomas Hun and John Ten Broeck to Sir William Johnson, undated, but written between Dec. 3 and 20, 1773; destroyed by fire.

FROM PETER W. YATES

A. L. S.

[*Schenectady Dec. 20, 1773*]

[   ]

Four of the Members[2] of [   ] here last Saturday Even[ing   ] Rest yesterday but they [   ] come, tho' every Moment exp[ected] when they arrive, we shall p[roceed] to the Hall, with all possible Exp[edition] in Case its practicable.

I am your most
Hum — Serv^{t}
PETER W. YATES

TO SIR W^{M}. JOHNSON Bar^{t}.

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[1] In Johnson's hand.

[2] Members of the committee representing the Albany Corporation. *See* letter of Dec. 3, 1773 from the Corporation to Johnson.

MEETING OF AN ALBANY COMMITTEE WITH THE MOHAWKS

D.[1]

[*Johnson Hall December 21–22, 1773*]

[[2]]

[ ] the Worshipfull Abraham [ ]

John H. Ten Eyck
Guysbert G. M[erseles]
Robt. Yates [ ]
John Ten Broeck
Peter W Yates

Cornelius Skirline
Henry Van Veghten [ ]
Leondt Gansevort

Mohocks
Abraham al. Teyorhansera
Aaron
Hans al. Unaguaandchonge
Isaac
Hans al. Canadagaya
Laurence
Seth
David
Peter
Abraham
Cornelius

The Committee tendered to Sir William Johnson [ ] Speech setting forth the state of their Disputes which they d[irected] be read, and explained to the Mohocks, and the same was [done accor]dingly, which was in the words following —

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[1] Following the provision made by the Albany Common Council, Dec. 17, 1773, the committee named by the Common Council, Dec. 14, 1773, met the Mohawks at their Lower Castle, Dec. 20, 1773. Sir William Johnson attended the congress. A partial copy of the proceedings is in the manuscript Minutes of the Common Council of the City of Albany, New York, 9:37–42 in New York State Library. Some of the missing sections have been supplied from these manuscript minutes. The manuscript records in the Johnson papers and Council Minutes are not identical. The council records do not contain the material found in the latter part of the manuscript in the Johnson papers. This partial copy is printed in Munsell's *Collections on the History of Albany*, 1:357–59.

[2] Lines burned off.

Friends and Brethren of the Mohock Nation of the lower Village

We have requested from Sir Wm. Johnson your Attend[ance here] that we might have an Opportunity to lay before you a Det[ail of our Claim and Proceedings respecting the Lands at Tionnondoroge and that we may also offer to you our best assurances to secure those Lands upon the basis of your former agreements with us and Others and by means whereof endeavour to remove the Supposed Wrongs & Injuries you Pretend to have Received from us.

It is not unknown to you that our Ancestors the Dutch and English upon their first Arrival in this Country were the first White People with whom you entered into an Alliance of Friendship which has remained Inviolate from its Commence-ment] until this day.—

The inhabitants of the City of Albany the nearest & chief [Christian Settlement] to you have always cultivated your ffriendship, and [deemed their Preserv]ation, and Interest to be inseperably connected with yours [against the Perfi]dy, and Encroachments of the ffrench, and their Indian Allies, [and as our da]nger from that Quarter were equal, we acted in every Emer[gency like f]riends, and Brethren by giving, and receiving Aid and Pro[tection of a]nd to each other against the common Enemy.—

About 86 years ago while we lived with you on this [friendly] footing, the Inhabitants of Albany obtained from Thomas Dungan[1] the then Governor over this Province under James the 2d King of England by [letters pat]ent, or Charter of Incorporation the liberty, and licence at their plea[sure] to purchase from you the Quantity of 1000 Acres of low or Mea[dow land] at Tionnondorogoe which said Quantity of

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[1] Thomas Dongan, colonial governor of New York, 1683–88.

1000 Acres, the said Thomas Dungan did thereby in behalf of his said Majesty give grant, and [confirm] to the said Inhabitants of Albany by the name of the Mayor, [Aldermen] and Conmonalty, and their Successors for ever.—

Brethren —

Under this Grant the Inhabitants of Albany never have intended to encroach on, or usurp your lands, but on the contrary always [deem]ed it a Happiness as well to them as you that the Individuals of your nation [were] deprived by this Grant from selling Parcels of those lands to white People, and [thus] your Property in those lands was rendered safe to you, and your Posterity while a [Nation], and so long as you continued in Possession thereof,— yet not long thereafter [several] of your nation from motives of interest, or otherwise proceeded to the Sale of [divers] Parcels of those Lands to white People.—

Here [is a Deed by which Tenegwanegie One of your Ancestors about 52 Years ago Sold a piece of this Land to Abraham Cuyler.[1] Here is also a Deed by which Aaron Segehowanie and Colliam about 33 years ago sold to him another Parcell of these Lands.

Here is also a Certified Copy of another Deed whereby Daniel Gideon Jacob Canestagie Jacomyne and Senina Sold another Tract of those lands about 43 Years ago to Peter Brower for the Term of 999 Years.]

And though we have [not at Present the Deeds in our Possession yet] we know, and if necessary, will prove [it that some of your Nation also about the] same time sold another Parcel of those lands to Jan Wiemp.

We also heard that Several of your Nation [were about the same time] in Contract to sell to others Part of those Lands.—

Brethren —

Your wise men, and Sachims being [thereupon justly Alarmed] convinced that the continuance of those Bargains, wou'd [of course break up] your Settlements, and consequently that your Power, [Influence and] very Existence wou'd dwindle away, therefore deputed [three of their Num]ber to apply to us who complaining of these Proceedings [Earnestly requested] us in their name to come up, and receive from them a [Deed for the whole] of the said Lands.

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[1] Abraham Cuyler, mayor of Albany, 1770–78.

Upon this Invitation, the City of Albany sen[t John Depeyster] Mayor, Dirck Ten Broeck Recorder, Reyer Gerritse, [Jacob Lansing] and Cornelius Cuyler Aldermen, and John Visscher Jun^{r} [Assistant to your] Castle for that purpose. There your Ancestors unanimously [executed a deed] for those lands to us in trust nevertheless for you the said Mohock [Indians so long] as you Shou'd be a nation, and be there Settled, and immediately [after] the Remainder to the City for ever.—

Thus you devised and put into Execution the only E[xpedient] which has preserved to you ever since the free use, and Enjoyment [of the] Residue of those Lands.—

The Persons who had before bought from you part of those [lands] well knowing that their Title was imperfect, unless confirmed by [the Kings Grant or Letters Patent and as the City had already such a grant from the Crown they therefore applyed to us by your Consent & approbation and Voluntarily became and attaned Tenants under us for those Lands by accepting and Taking from us Deeds for the same.

Brethren —

After we had received your Deed we Deposited the same in the hand of said John Depeyster who about three years after the same was intrusted into his Custody was requested by William Cosby[1] our then Governor who was then at Albany in Treaty with the Five Nations to [attend on him with the said Deed which he] accordingly did, and the said Governor [gave it to one Arie an] Indian with Signs, and directions to destroy it [who accordingly tore] the deed in pieces, and threw the same into the fire. [In this manner] against our Consent, and by the Contrivance of a designing [Governor and] one Single Indian, we lost a Deed executed by your whole [Castle.]

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[1] William Cosby, colonial governor of New York, 1732–1736.

Brethren.—

Though Governor Cosby pretended to act for your [Interest in] destroying this Deed, yet we know full well, and are able to [prove it] if necessary, that he had in this Transaction his own particular In[terest at] heart, as we know that he was then in Treaty with you to buy those [very same] lands for his own use, and the use of his particular ffriends, and therefore Con[trived] the Destruction of the Deed whose Existance he conceived the chief [Obstacle] to his design in compleating his self interested Designs.—

Since which time, the Heirs of Jan Wemple have by our Order been [arres]ted for refusing, or delaying to pay us the Rent he had by Deed promised [to] pay.—

Thus have we given you a faithful account of the Proceedings of our Ancestors, and do hereupon declare we are much at a loss to know from what particular Transaction of Ours, your Discontent & Jealousy doth arise.—

It cannot justly proceed from the Right we have to compel those white People to perform their voluntary Engagements, because no Injury can arise to you whether they do, or do not pay us those Rents.—

[Nor can it arise from their Continuing in Possession of those Lands for we Cannot immagin that you are men who when you have Once Sold Land without any Condition would Claim them again nor do we Conceive that you can be Injured if those People who bought from you do not return you those Lands.—

Nor can it be any just cause of Jealousy or Discontent to you that they have by agreement thus Obligated themselves to us they were not] your [Servents or Slaves they were free men and Could] without any Injury to you become [our Tenants.—]

Respecting the Remainder [of the Lands at Tionnonderoge] which your whole Village conveyed to us in [the Manner we have] mentioned before, have we ever presumed to [take any

Possession of it] or have we placed any Tenants on it? Surely [not, and if we had] we wou'd have done wrong, because those Lands [are yours so] long as you remain a Nation, and are there [Settled and we do] declare before you, and the whole World that we [have no right] or Pretensions to it 'till your Removal from the[m or extinction] as a Nation.— But lest you Shou'd be doubtfull [to trust to this] Solemn declaration, and in order wholly to ease your [minds we] shall give you you more Substantial Proofs of our Since[rity —] Here we Offer you a Deed[1] by us executed for [that Purpose.]

The Committee tendered to Sir Wm. Johnson [ ] following Deeds — vizt. One to Mr Abraham C[uyler] Teneghwanege as the Property of Arie and Taghrard [ ] 14th. June 1721 forever.— Another from David [ ] Jacob Canestagie, Jacomyne, and Seinia Sachims &c fo[ ] of Strouds, 7 Kettles, and other Merchandize to Peter Brow[ ] 999 Years 7th. July 1730 all which are referred to in the [ ] Speech or Address.—The Deed to Jan Wemple did n[ot]

Then delivered the Mohocks a Deed from the Corpor[ ] their farther assurance in the said Lands, so long as they [ ]
[[2]]
[ ] mentioned having been fully [ ]
[ ] Mohocks, they signified that they were [ ]
[ ], and accordingly on Wednesday the 22d. they
[ ] Sir Wm. Johnson and the Indians Assembled.—

Present as before

Abraham the Mohock Chief arose, and addressed the [ ] and the rest of the Committee acquainting them that they had [ ] considered their Speech, and the Instrument tendered to them [ ] they wou'd then answer. after which he proceeded as follows — vizt.

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[1] A copy of this deed is in the manuscript records of the Albany Common Council in the New York State Library; printed in Munsell's *Collections on the History of Albany*, 1:359–62.

[2] Lines burned off.

[Broth]ers —

We do not think it necessary to give a particular and [ ] [ ] part of your Speech.—We have attended particularly to [ ] of our first Accquaintance, the Wars that followed and the Assistance we [ ]ed one another.— You next Speak of our having requested [ ] Assistance to protect our Lands from Encroachments, and that according[ly] some of your People obtained a Deed for its Security.—

Brothers —

As to your saying that you Obtained the Deed out of regard [ ] us, and our Interest, we must observe that we always shewed as much [ ] regard towards you. We gave the Lands of Albany, Schenectady and [those] on this Side gratis to your People, by which means many of them became great. but we will not enter upon all we have done on these Occasions. Notwithstanding, Brothers, the Regard you profess you appear to us to covet the little spot we live upon which cost you nothing, and even to take [ ] [[1]] defence of the Country in the late Wars [ ]ly in the same when many chose to stay [ ] we therefore little expected we shou'd have met [ ] for our good Behaviour.—

Brothers —

Where is that Love you mention flown [ ] you have proposed for our Acceptance is to hold so long [ ] a Nation.— We don't know what may be your [ ] perhaps when may have half a dozen or ten Houses [ ] say we are no Nation, and turn us off.—But Brothers [ ] Shall not bear it.—We are neither without ffriends or [ ] well known that many Nations around us, and to the so[uth are] much disaffected at present, and shou'd you take such a Step

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[1] Lines burned off.

[the Conse]quences might prove fatal to you, and you wou'd be [ ] Brand that spread ffire over the Country. it is with the [ ] difficulty our Brother Sir Wm. Johnson can at present pre [ ] but if this was to happen, a Rupture wou'd certainly be the [ ]

As Encroachments on our Lands have been the [ ] of repeated trouble, the King sometime since ordered a Boun[dary] Line to be settled between the White People and us which was [ac]cordingly done at ffort Stanwix in 1768 where the Chiefs of all Six Nations, Shawanese and Delawares in the Presence of the Governor [ ]
[[1]]
[ ] that the King [ ]

Brothers —

Though the Tuscaroras had Quarrells and Wars with [ ] [ ] North Carolina, and also the Nanticokes, yet they h[ ] [ ] with fair treatment, and the small Remains of them w[ ] [ ] sell their Lands. Now, Brothers, we have been [ ] your known Friends, and Allies, and we are therefore much [ ]d that our Lands shou'd be attempted to be taken without [ ] fair Purchase after our long Fidelity, and Services.—

Thus, Brothers, we have told you our Uneasiness, and [ ] cannot be satisfied unless our Lands are firmly secured to us [ ]

As for your Deeds, or Papers, we really do not [underst]and them.—we refer those matters to our Brother Sir Wm. Johnson [ ] our Superintendant, and whom we trust will take Care of our [ ] And we request that you will consider this, and not be in [ ] hurry.— You have doubtless long considered what you have pro[posed], and we have had but short warning, and be assured it is for your interest as well as ours that this matter be amicably settled.—

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[1] Lines burned off.

The Committee then desired to withdraw, and shortly after returned with a Paper which they desired shou'd be read and interpreted to the Indians, which was done accordingly and was in the Words following — viz^{t}

Breth^{n}.—
[We have heard and Considered your answer to our Speech or proposal of yesterday We are extreamly sorry that you seem Dissatisfied with our generous Offer of a deed executed by us and Delivered to you in order totally to pacify your minds respecting the Lands at Tiononderoga and as you mention that you Conceive it will be for the Interest of us both to have the Matter Settled if you should hereafter][1] have any thing farther to [propose on the Subject we shall at] all times be willing, and ready [to hear you and Take the same] into Consideration.—

After which the Mohocks Ch[ ] to the Mayor observing that they were [ ] these matters, but referred them to Sir W^{m}. [Johnson]

The Mayor and the rest of the Council [ ] and immediately after returned to Alb[any] Mohocks remained in Council —

At 4 P. M. the Mohocks sent [to Sir W^{m} Johnson] to acquaint him that they were surprized [the Committee] had retired so abruptly, and that they had [a few words to] mention to him previous to their going [home,] and having accordingly assembled, Abraham spoke as follows — viz^{t}

Present

Sir William Johnson Bar^{t}.— Superint[endent]
Dan^{l}. Claus } Esq^{rs}.—Dep^{y} Ag^{ts}
Guy Johnson }
John Butler Esq^{r}.— Interpreter

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[1] Missing sections supplied from manuscript Minutes of the Albany Common Council, 9:53; printed in Munsell's *Collections on the History of Albany*, 1:365.

Alexander White Esq^{r}.— High Sherrif
Joseph Chew — Esq^{r}
John Dease Esq^{r}
M^{r}. Daly —

[Brother

We requested to speak a Few words to you before we depart

Brother/

When you first acquainted us that the Albany Committee desired to Settle Matters amicably here with us we agreed to attend with the same Disposition but we find from the Proceeding, Particularly from their last Speech and abrupt Departure that they had not the Inclination they Professed

Nevertheless to shew our generous Inclination we are Disposed] to wait a few days to hear [whether they have further Considered the matter] according to our desire, and whether [they acquaint us of their] resolutions, but shou'd they neglect to do this, [then it is our Particular] Request that you will lay our Case immediately before [the great King and] request the assistance of the Governor of New York, [that we may] receive Justice.—We rely on you, Brother, that you will [do this for we] are fully convinced, seeing they took no notice of our [Reference to] you that we have no other Hopes of Redress or means [of Preventin]g the evil Consequences that may ensue —

To which Sir William answered.—

Brothers —

I have heard you with Attention, and am concerned [that the] Gentlemen of the Committee withdrew without offering any [thing furt]her on the Subject of their coming to this Place.— I shall [agreeab]le to your desires, wait a reasonable time to hear the Issue of their Deliberations.— but shou'd nothing favourable to your [desires] be offered by the Corporation, you may rest assured that I shall [lay the] State of your Affairs before his Majesty, and request the [coopper]ation of his Excellency the

Governor of New York.—In the [mean]time I desire you will rest satisfied with the Readiness of [Gouver]nment to afford you all the Justice your Case shall appear [to] deserve.—

INDORSED:

[ ] of the Proceedings at a
Meeting with a Committee of
the Corporation of the City of
Albany, & the Mohock Indians —
Johnson Hall 21st Dec^{r}. 1773

SPEECH OF ABRAHAM

Contemporary Copy[1]

Johnson Hall Dec^{r}: 21st: 1773.

Present	Indians Present	
Sir William Johnson Bar^{t}:	Abraham	Lowranee
Coll Claus	Arent	Seth
Coll Guy Johnson	White Hans	David
Coll John Butler Interpreter	Isaac	Peter
	James Canadagaye	Abr^{m} Hans's Son
		Cornelius.

We have Considered of your Speech of Yesterday and are now a going to answer it

1st: I do not Pretend to enter into the first part of your Speech in relation to Friendship, the wars and so forth

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[1] In the manuscript Minutes of the Common Council of the City of Albany, New York, in the New York State Library, Albany, N. Y.

In the Council Minutes the document is preceded by the following statements:

"That the said Indians then took the said deed and Informed the said Committee that they would on the Day following give in their Answer.

TO THE ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL

Contemporary Copy[1]

Johnson Hall Dec^r: 28^th: 1773

SIR

I Judge it an Act of Justice and friendship to acquaint you that the Mohawks Continued in Councill for above an Hour after the departure of the Committee the Other day, when they sent a Message to me Expressing their Surprize that the Gentlemen had set out for Albany Observing that when you left them in the room they had expected you retired some where to deliberate more seriously on their Speech and the matter before you as they had desired that as the offers you had made did not appear to them to be any additional Security or Satisfaction they hoped to se[e] you disposed to enter into a Treaty the result of which might prove more favourable to their Intrest but as they were informed you had actually set out for Albany they requested to Speak to me in publick previously to their Departure accordingly I went into the Room attended by the Gentlemen here where we had a short Conference of which I herewith send you a Copy

I have only to remark that the Indians who are Sencible that they are Ignorant of Law and the operation of Conveyances &c^a: were naturally inclined and realy ment to have my advice and such as I could procure before they Proceeded farther & that they were fully Persuaded you would have been more explicit on the material Point of the Duration of their possession previous to their saying any thing farther I must therefore request that you will communicate this with the Inclosed to the Corporation that I may with all Convenient Speed be enabled to tell the Indians whether you will enter into any Treaty with them that may lead to the Amicable Settlement of this matter and the determining on that material point. If so I shall readily afford you all the friendship I can Consistently Offer persuaded that the Mohawks will listen to reason and join their Proposals for an amicable Settlement Otherwise I must (Altho very Disagreeable) be compelled to endeavor to procure them satisfaction without Delay agreeable to the mode they have proposed, I am Sir, with much Esteem

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[1] In the manuscript Minutes of the Common Council of the City of Albany, New York, 9:55–6, in New York State Library, Albany, N. Y.; printed in Munsell's *Collections on the History of Albany*, 1:364.

Your most Humble Servant

W JOHNSON

To ABRAHAM C CUYLER Esq

P S. Since writing the foregoing there being no opportunity of geting over the River/ I was favoured with your Letter inclosing the Resolutions of the Board I take this Opportunity of Returning them my best Thanks for their polite mention of me as well as to you Sir for the manner in which you transmitted it

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FROM EBENEZER JESSUP

L. S.

Albany Decem^r^ 29th 1773

HONOURED SIR/

I Receiv^d^. yours of the 24th Ins^t^. In which you Desire me to Send the mony for the Indians &c

Since I came out of the woods I have Spent The whole of my time to Git the mony, all the people that Is in my debt, in the Country and here, have failed in Paying — My Brother Edward had the promise of having The mony without fail, and Sent a man on purpose Twice to Stanford at the Cost of £23, and after All they cannot Pay untill Spring, our Edward & I have Sold our place at Fort Miller Some time Ago, on purpose to Settle this Affair. But though All Rich Farmers that